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IN TODAY'S JERUSALEM POST

- "What goes up must come down," say stock market experts. But should the banks lend customers large sums to invest in the Tel Aviv Exchange? Allison Kaplan Sommer reports from the nation's roller coaster. Section B.
- AIDS is no longer a 'gay' disease, reports Sue Fishkoff. A shocking percentage of new cases are women. Magazine.
- Not even this week's major crises could keep Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin from visiting the Lola Beer fashion retrospective, honoring the country's leading designer of chic clothes. Greer Fay Cashman reports. Section B.
- Nicola Strauss, born with a silver microphone in her hand, has it all - and then some. Liat Collins profiles the IBA news anchorwoman. Magazine.



A Palestinian youth is driven away by police after stabbing and seriously wounding a soldier on the Hebrew University Givat Ram campus yesterday. (Suein/Hamari)

Terrorist stabs soldier at Hebrew University

A KNIFE-WIELDING Arab youth seriously wounded a soldier at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem's Givat Ram campus yesterday, before being captured by university guards.

Ido Dekel, 20, had just left classes when the youth stabbed him once in the back. Dekel studies at the air force's university degree program, Talpiot, which is based on the campus.

The attack occurred at around 2:30 p.m. Dekel was alone when stabbed by the youth, 17, from the Jebel Mukaber neighborhood in eastern Jerusalem.

Police and witnesses said Dekel remained standing, with the knife in his back, as several students came to his aid. Dekel pointed in the direction the attacker fled, then students helped him to lie down and one of them, a medic, administered first aid.

Dekel gave police investigators a description of the assailant before being taken to Hadassah University Hospital at Ein Kerem in a Magen David Adom

BILL HUTMAN

ambulance.

"I heard someone crying out, but when I turned around to look I thought it was just a joke, and kept going," said the teacher of the course Dekel had just left when he was stabbed.

The teacher returned to the scene after hearing on the radio that a Talpiot student had been attacked. "I just can't understand it, everything around looked so normal," he said.

Police, soldiers, and university security guards arrested several Arab suspects. One suspect, the youth from Jebel Mukaber, admitted to carrying out the attack.

The youth, who works for a gardening contractor, told police he took a knife from home to the university with the intention of stabbing a Jew, in protest against the PLO-Israel agreement.

The suspect does not have a police record and apparently operated alone. He tried to hide from his pursuers amid a group of tourists,

but did not resist when detained by university security guards.

Police Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz and Jerusalem Police chief Cmdr. Aryeh Amit released statements praising the security forces and guards for their "quick reaction."

A police helicopter hovered over the Givat Ram campus, directing the search for the assailant. But the campus gates were not closed, and students and visitors continued to wander around freely, with no knowledge an attacker was on the loose.

A hospital spokesman said yesterday evening that Dekel, from Caesarea, arrived in serious condition. But after being operated on, his condition had substantially improved, with no damage found to internal organs.

Dekel is a second year student in the program, reserved for only top students who agree to serve seven years in the air force, after completing either a bachelor of arts or master's degree in the sciences.

Finance committee meets today over new Clalit bailout plan

THE Knesset finance committee is to meet in special session this morning to debate the cabinet's revised plan for bailing out the Histadrut's Kupat Holim Clalit health fund. Yesterday the ministers decided to offer a loan of NIS 400 million plus an NIS 85m. grant, instead of the NIS 400m. loan previously proposed.

MK Haim Ramon, the Histadrut's secretary-general designate, immediately rejected the cabinet's decision, saying, "I don't want to be the grave digger of 3.5 million Kupat Holim members."

The extra money is not nearly as much as rebellious coalition MKs had demanded on Wednesday, when those who did not advocate the immediate appointment of an operating receiver for the fund said at least NIS 800-900m. were necessary to keep it afloat for the first month after Ramon takes office as planned on July 1.

Ramon announced yesterday he would not cooperate with the cabinet's decision and program, which he said would cause considerable suffering to Kupat Holim members. "Let them be the grave diggers if they want to," he said.

Ramon branded the cabinet decision "aggressive and manipulative" and aimed at driving people to other health funds before he can take over as secretary-general.

"I ask for one month in the position, not more, even though one month also seems impossible to me, in which Kupat Holim is functioning properly," Ramon told the ministers. "I don't know how much it costs. If you're not ready to grant me one month, then reach another decision. Don't deceive the public."

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin told the Labor Party bureau yesterday that the money to be made available to Kupat Holim would last for only six weeks. He said he expects all members of the coalition in the finance committee to support the allocation, "and this includes MKs from Labor and Meretz as well."

By July, Rabin hopes, "the government and the Histadrut together will come up with a plan to rehabilitate Kupat Holim Clalit. We will need to examine and re-evaluate the way KHC is operated, the extent of its operations, and their efficiency. Next week the national health bill is due to pass and we will have to give the new Histadrut administration a chance, though not necessarily under all the terms that Haim Ramon demands."

Rabin said the proposal appears

EVELYN GORDON,
 JOSE ROSENFELD,
 JUDY SIEGEL,
 and MICHAEL YUDELMAN

to have a good chance of passing the committee today. "I have reason to hope that this time it will pass," he said after meeting with coalition MKs on the committee yesterday. The comments of the MKs appeared to back him up.

"I think members of the coalition will vote for the cabinet's decision," said MK Eli Goldschmidt (Labor), who voted against the proposal on Wednesday. "The alternatives - a receiver, or the threat of a strike by Kupat Holim employees - are too dangerous."

Avraham Poraz (Meretz) explained why many coalition MKs are changing their minds.

"This [the NIS 480m.] won't help anything," he said. "It simply delays the collapse by a month. But [Wednesday], we thought the cabinet would bring a more serious plan [if we refused the request]. Now, he said, it is clear that another refusal won't help - and on the other side of the scales is the need for coalition MKs to support their government."

"I have an obligation to vote with the coalition," he explained. "We'll see what the majority of the coalition MKs [in the committee] say."

Poraz said the obligation to support the coalition holds, even though all the ministers from Meretz - Ramon's coalition partner in the Histadrut - voted against the cabinet decision in deference to Ramon's opposition.

Committee chairman Gedalya Gal (Labor), who on Wednesday said anything less than NIS 800m. would not solve the problem, was also considerably less adamant yesterday, saying he had not yet decided how to vote.

"I need to think. I need to talk to [health] professionals; I need to study the significance [of the proposal]," he said. "There is no reason for me to decide now."

The danger for the coalition, however, is that with the opposition solidly opposed to the re-

quest, even a few defectors or no-shows could cause them to lose the vote.

"We will vote against," reaffirmed MK Dan Tichon (Likud). "We're in favor of appointing a receiver."

The additional NIS 85 million in financial assistance to Kupat Holim Clalit approved by the cabinet yesterday were already included in the government's proposal last Sunday, according to Treasury spokesman Elishava Braun.

The only difference between the two rescue packages, she said, is that yesterday's includes a plan on how that money will be stretched to allow the health fund to function until mid-July.

Although Ramon asked for enough funding to carry Clalit until August, the cabinet decided to finance the health fund until the middle of next month, believing this is enough time for the parties to come up with a recovery plan, the spokesman said.

Finance Minister Avraham Shohat said he believes the deadline for the recovery plan is realistic if Ramon starts working on it immediately and does not wait until July, when he takes over. He added that if there is a serious recovery program, it may be possible to avoid naming a receiver.

Meretz ministers proposed to the cabinet a similar rescue package, but which totaled NIS 555m. in aid, including NIS 50m. in health fund efficiency savings. However, they voted against the proposal the cabinet adopted yesterday, since they believe it will not provide sufficient assistance.

Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein said he disagrees with Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair's interpretation of the law, according to which the government is proscribed from providing the health fund assistance that exceeds budgeted amounts.

"We are talking of an unprecedented, exceptional situation and about a system providing vital health services to more than 3 million citizens," said Rubinstein.

If Clalit receives the allocation, (Continued on Page 2)

Arafat orders closure of PLO offices in Tunis

TUNIS (AP) - Yasser Arafat has ordered PLO offices in Tunis closed by June 15 in preparation for moving the Palestinian leadership headquarters to Jericho, official sources disclosed yesterday.

The circular was dated June 4 and was distributed to more than 600 security and administrative officials earlier this week. A copy was made available to The Associated Press yesterday by senior officials.

It was the first clear indication that the Palestine Liberation Organization chairman, after weeks of foot-dragging, plans to move soon to Jericho to oversee self-

rule in the town and the Gaza Strip.

But there appears to have been no action on the order yet in Tunis, where there are scores of PLO offices. Some offices were closed and 500 employees left Tunis, however, following the signing of the May 4 PLO-Israel accord in Cairo.

The circular did not mention a date for the departure from Tunis or explain how many of the PLO staff will be allowed to move with Arafat to Jericho.

PLO officials have said they expected Arafat to travel to Jericho around mid-June.

"All offices of the security apparatus and the administration should be closed down and turned back to their owners on June 15 to prepare for the journey home," said the decree.

The employees were told to hand their cars to the PLO's diplomatic mission in Tunis, headed by Hakam Balawi.

Arafat, 64, was reported in ill health last week, suffering from flu and exhaustion. But he seems to have improved and traveled (Continued on Page 2)

A special thank-you to you General Arik Sharon

for your efforts in arranging our visit to Hebron, to pray at Me'oras Hamachpelo, on the yahrzeit of our father O.H. This was the first time in 27 years that we needed help in this matter, and you came to the rescue. We will never forget it.

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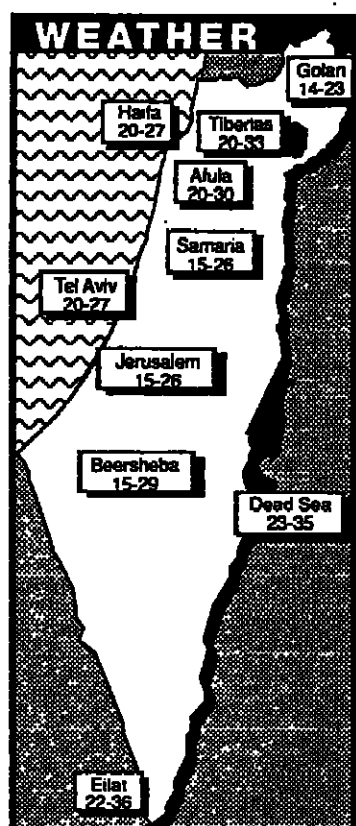


IS HE A MAN OF STRAW OR A MAN OF IRON? WHO IS THIS MAN?

1. Carried out the order to shell the "Altalena," killing and wounding many of his fellow Jews.
2. On May 17, 1948, after just 33 days, he was relieved of his duties as commander of the Harel Brigade.
3. Ezer Weizman reported in his book that, on May 23, 1967, during the crisis preceding the outbreak of the Six Day War, this man was broken and depressed, begging to be relieved of his duties.
4. Was dead wrong in his prediction, in an article he wrote in Ma'ariv shortly before the outbreak of the Yom Kippur War, that the Arabs were incapable of getting together to wage war against Israel.
5. Was dead wrong again, when he said that there was no need for Israel to mobilize, even if the Egyptians should mass troops along the Suez Canal (which they did a short time later).
6. These basic errors in judgment contributed to Israel being seriously unprepared for the Arab attack that followed.
7. Approved the Jibril Deal, releasing hundreds of terrorists, who subsequently continued to murder Jews.
8. As Defense Minister at the outbreak of the Intifada, allowed it to grow and fester, instead of bringing it to a swift halt.
9. Declared that he would never form a government that relied on Arab parties for its majority.
10. Heretofore, he compared Yasser Arafat to Adolf Hitler, but now chooses Arafat as his main "peace partner."
11. Stated in the past that he does not reject the transfer of Arabs to Jordan, as a solution to the Arab/Israeli conflict; but now he wants to transfer Jews from parts of their Ancestral Land.
12. In 1992, proclaimed that whoever proposes going down from the Golan endangers the security of Israel.

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	LOW	HIGH	WIND	MOON
Amsterdam	07	18	18	11
Berlin	08	19	19	12
Buenos Aires	04	13	13	05
Chicago	09	20	20	17
Copenhagen	06	16	16	08
Frankfurt	08	18	18	10
Geneva	09	19	19	11
Helsinki	07	17	17	09
Hong Kong	24	29	29	24
Jerusalem	15	26	26	15
London	09	19	19	11
Los Angeles	08	18	18	10
Madrid	09	19	19	11
Moscow	08	18	18	10
New York	08	18	18	10
Paris	09	19	19	11
Rome	09	19	19	11
Sydney	17	22	22	17
Tel Aviv	20	27	27	20
Toronto	07	17	17	08
Vienna	08	18	18	10

Winning numbers

In last night's weekly Payis Hazak drawing, ticket 694370 won the NIS 1 million top prize, while ticket 079752 won the Honda car.

Tickets 501846, 796161, 022135, 848633, 696697, 778767, 078604, 599550, 828970, 307441, 488890, 448475, 725275, 106406, 721564, 640638, 563347, 564775, 296803, 567783, 128057, 382943, 631540, 041567, 081930, and 774227 won NIS 5,000.

Winning NIS 1,000 were tickets ending in 82942, 22148, 68323, 66686, 46954, 06060, 69389, 20536, 00360, 38195, 97516, 13776, 79468, 39423, 15800, 80648, 33750, 49172, and 88854.

Tickets ending in 943, 810, 022 and 163 won NIS 100, while those ending in 60, 34, 38, and 14 won NIS 20. Tickets ending in 38, 34, 85, 63, 41, 14 and 74 won NIS 10, while those ending in 1 won NIS 7.

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the nine of spades, queen of hearts, nine of diamonds and queen of clubs.

Families cannot attend Tze'elim-2 trial

ALON PINKAS

A MILITARY judge late last night denied an appeal by the families of four soldiers killed in the 1992 Tze'elim-2 training accident, in which the families demanded to be present at the trial of two General Staff commando unit officers indicted for negligence leading to their sons' deaths.

The families intend to appeal to the High Court of Justice, according to their lawyer, Eliad Shraga. The military court judge said he would not convene the trial until their appeal is decided.

The Tze'elim-2 trial will remain behind closed doors, but yesterday's appeal was open to the public and the media.

"It is our only and last opportunity to get to the truth," said the sister of one of the soldiers killed. "How could they deny us that right?"

The two defendants are being tried for negligence in the training accident in November 1992, in

which five soldiers were killed and six injured when a missile was mistakenly fired at a group of soldiers.

Maj. K. was the direct commander of the exercise, according to the indictment, while Capt. A. is charged with negligence regarding the faulty firing of a missile in a phase of the exercise which should not have involved live fire.

Two major-generals, OC Intelligence Corps Uri Sagny and corps commander Amiram Levine, were given administrative reprimands for their indirect responsibility for the exercise in which the accident occurred.

Allowing the families to be present at the trial is unrelated to conducting the trial behind closed doors.

IDF sources said that at no time was a public hearing considered, since this might compromise the unit's security.

Families of MLAs seeking to cross into Lebanon

DAVID RUDGE

FAMILIES of missing servicemen and activists pressing for their return are seeking permission from the Israeli, Syrian and Lebanese authorities to enter Lebanon.

They intend to visit the Good Fence border crossing near Metulla on Sunday in the hope that from there they will be allowed to cross into Lebanon to seek information about the MIA's.

"We are prepared to take any risk even if it means endangering ourselves. After 12 years without our son, without knowing whether he's alive or dead, our own lives are worth very little," said Pina Feldman, mother of Zvi Feldman.

"We want to know the truth, for better or for worse, and for that we are prepared to do whatever is necessary," she added.

Joel Leyden, co-chairperson of the International Coalition for Missing Israeli Soldiers, said the voluntary organization which has offices in North America as well as Israel, had made contact with the Syrian and Lebanese governments and was awaiting a response to their request.

He said the association had information, believed to be reliable, that at least two out of the four servicemen missing in Lebanon were alive. He declined to give any further details.

He was referring to IAF navigator Ron Arad and the three soldiers missing from the Sultan Yakoub battle on June 12, 1982 - Yehuda Katz, Zaharia Baumei and Zvi Feldman.

Two other MIA's, Yosef Fink and Rahamim Alsheikh, who were captured by Hizbullah in February 1986, have been confirmed as being dead, although their bodies have not yet been returned to Israel.

Leyden said the group also intended to contact UNIFIL and the International Committee of the Red Cross, and hoped the UN would provide them with an escort if they were granted permission to cross into Lebanon.

"At the very least we intend to stage a ceremony at the Good Fence crossing, to mark the 12th anniversary since the three soldiers from Sultan Yakoub went missing, and Arka airlines has very kindly offered to fly representatives of the group and the families to the north," said Leyden.

Leyden said the families were ready to take nearly any measures to try to obtain concrete evidence about the fate of their missing boys - and were willing to sign documents absolving the government of any responsibility for them if they were allowed to enter Lebanon.



Attorney Yonatan Yuval (left) consults yesterday with client Shaul Shilo, whose son was one of those killed in the Tze'elim training accident. (Hanoach Grizinsky/Israel Sun)

Russia signs military deal with Syria

DAMASCUS (Reuters) - Syria and Russia have signed military cooperation agreements following four days of talks in the Syrian capital, Russian officials said yesterday.

They said Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Mikhail Kolesnikov and his Syrian counterpart, Lieut.-Gen. Hikmat Shehadi signed 12 documents dealing with technical military cooperation.

No details were released, but the officials said the accords "dealt with specific fields of cooperation" from a military cooperation agreement signed in Damascus in April.

Russian officials said the April deal, the first of its kind between Syria and Russia, would pave the way for resumption of military supplies from Moscow.

Syrian enters country
A Syrian citizen who illegally crossed the northern border on Sunday was held for 15 days yesterday by the Acre Magistrates Court.

Mohammed Ibrahim, 29, surrendered himself to IDF forces and was brought for interrogation by the General Security Service.

The man told the court he had entered Israel to receive medical treatment for injuries he sustained when he was tortured in Syrian prisons. (Iim)

Hrawi denounces Israeli attacks

BEIRUT (AP) - The president yesterday denounced Israel's recent military attacks in Lebanon and said his country would never succumb to peace on Israel's terms.

President Elias Hrawi, however, sought to ease spiraling hostilities between guerrillas and Israeli forces in south Lebanon.

"What they couldn't accomplish in the negotiations will not be achieved through aggression," Hrawi said in a speech during a graduation ceremony for 99 new police officers.

Hrawi's remarks came a day af-

ter Israeli warplanes rocketed Shiite Moslem guerrilla bases in Lebanon, the second air strike in a week. On May 2, Israeli warplanes struck a guerrilla training camp in south Lebanon, killing up to 50 recruits.

"Israel will not achieve its goal and will not make us give up on our demands" for an unconditional Israeli withdrawal from occupied territory in the south, the president said.

"We know how to obtain our rights. We will not be dragged into inflammatory reactions," Hrawi said.

CLALIT

(Continued from Page One)
It will be able to pay May salaries as well as provide vital services for a few weeks. This would head off a threatened strike by the health fund's 35,000 workers, at least until the next payday in July.

The health fund, the Health Ministry, and the treasury have prepared an emergency plan by which Clalit would continue to provide most services while delaying payment to suppliers. According to the plan, elective treatment and surgery in the afternoon could be canceled, and emergency medical treatment centers could be shut down temporarily.

In addition, visits to certain spe-

cialists may be allowed only upon referral from a general practitioner or family doctor. But Clalit sources insist the reduced functioning and delayed payment of suppliers would not affect most members.

Meanwhile, the union of Clalit hospital nurses yesterday demanded the immediate establishment of a "commission of inquiry" into the causes of the Clalit crisis. The nurses said they would insist on getting their salaries immediately, and want their representatives to take part in finding a solution to the health fund's problems. If not, they will apply sanctions, said the union.

ARAFAT

(Continued from Page One)
Wednesday to Morocco to meet with King Hassan II.

He was expected to attend a summit meeting of the Organization of African Union opening Monday in Tunis.

Excluded from Arafat's shutdown order was the PLO's political department, headed by Farouk

Kaddoumi, which will continue to operate from Tunis to enhance ties between the Palestine National Authority, which will govern the autonomous territories, and the international community.

PLO officials said Arafat will also keep his own office and a residence in Tunis for the time being.

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Sha'ath urgently appeals for cash

PARIS (Reuters) - The Palestinians' new "finance minister" met international aid donors yesterday to appeal for urgent funds to start up the fledgling self-government in Gaza and Jericho.

Nabil Sha'ath, chief negotiator of last month's self-rule agreement with Israel, held separate talks with World Bank officials and representatives of donor countries to plead for an immediate cash injection.

He was supported by Israel, which sent a high-level delegation to urge donors to turn their pledges into real money, and by Norway.

"The people who know the reality on the ground, the Israelis and the Norwegians, realize that if we don't get the money right now - not in a month's time - we can't take off," said Leila Shahid, Palestinian delegate-general in France.

"All we have had until now is pledges. There is not yet any commitment, there is no mechanism of disbursement," she said.

The Palestine Liberation Organization wants donors to provide \$177 million immediately to help pay the new Palestinian Police force in Gaza and Jericho and set up other parts of the self-rule authority.

An Israeli official said Tuesday

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The Technion's accomplishments have been made possible not only by its students, faculty and administrative staff, but also by the devotion of its countless friends and supporters around the globe. They have been full and active partners in the growth of Israel's first institute of technology and in the achievements of Israeli high technology. I am delighted to welcome so many of the Board to participate in this week's meetings and celebrations.

Mr. Henry Taub
Chairman of the International
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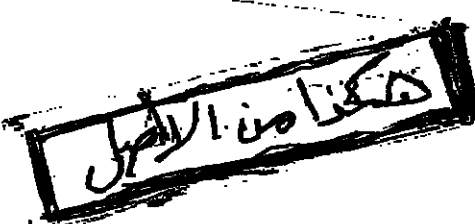


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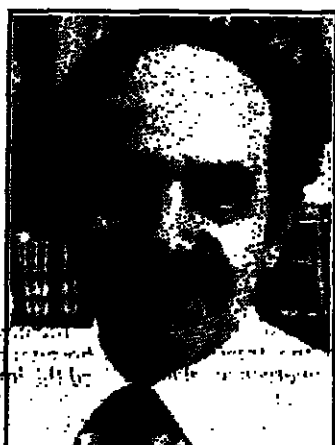
But aside from our academic achievements, we have also fulfilled for Israeli society the role of the Board of Governors of the Technion, as a center for research and development, more than ever, preparing to face one of its greatest challenges: we will play a unique role in the technological cooperation between Israel and the rest of the world.



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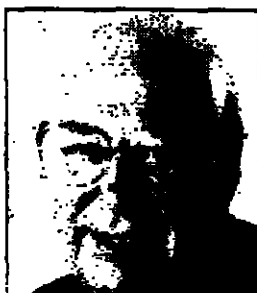


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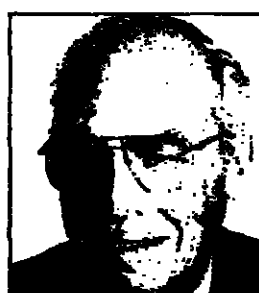
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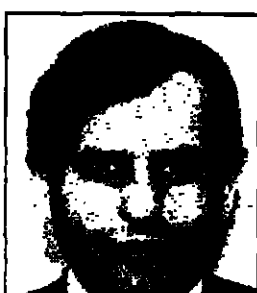
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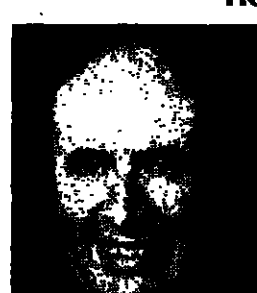
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USA



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USA

CEREMONIES

Sunday, June 12

12:30 p.m.

1:15 p.m.

6:00 p.m.

8:30 p.m.

Monday, June 13

5:30 p.m.

8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, June 14

11:00 a.m.

2:30 p.m.

3:30 p.m.

4:30 p.m.

8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 15

11:15 a.m.

12:15 p.m.

2:15 p.m.

3:15 p.m.

7:30 p.m.

Thursday, June 16

8:30 a.m.

Gringlas-Melbourne Australian Technion Society Auditorium - Faculty of Mechanical Engineering
South African Technion Society Auditorium - Faculty of Industrial Engineering and Management
Festive Opening Ceremony and Awarding of Honorary Fellowships - Churchill Auditorium
Festive Pageant: A New Tomorrow

David Hachon and Hillel Dan Academic Chair endowed by Yekutiel Federman - Senate Building
Harvey Prize Ceremony - Churchill Auditorium

American Technion Society Village II:

Leonard and Lois Laser Dormitory

Leonard and Diane Sherman Dormitory

Ben and Shelley Sosewitz Dormitory

Harry Stern Family Center for Continuing Education and External Studies - Canada Building

Swiss Technion Society Irrigation Laboratory - Faculty of Agricultural Engineering

Kunin-Lunenfeld/Canadian Technion Society High Resolution Transmission Electron

Microscopy Facility - Department of Materials Engineering

Honorary Doctorates Ceremony - Churchill Auditorium

Simon and Jeanne (Hanna) Mani Lecture Hall and the Salomon Simon Mani Award Ceremony for

Excellence in Teaching - Ullmann Teaching Center

Women's Division, American Technion Society-Irving and Adele Rosenberg Family Dormitory -

American Technion Society Village I

Ladislav and Vilma Segoe Building for Urban and Regional Studies - Faculty of Architecture and

Town Planning

Women's Division, American Technion Society Biotechnology Equipment - Whizin Biotechnology Center

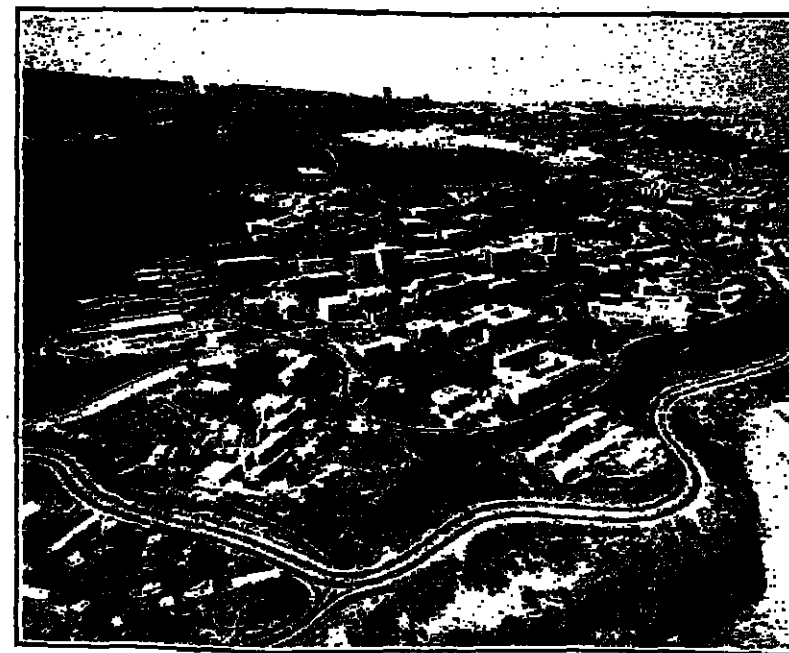
Heller Cinema - Shine Student Union Building

Andrew and Ema Finci Viterbi Chair in Information Systems - Segoe Building

ABOUT THE TECHNION

The Technion - the first university in Israel - opened its doors in 1924. Its historic task was to prepare young men and women to build a new nation, and to carry out research and development that would lead to the creation of infrastructure, technology and industry.

Since then, the Technion has served as Israel's primary technological university and largest center of applied research. In the process, the Israel Institute of Technology has gained an international reputation for excellence in both education and research. Over the years, more than 35,000 Technion graduates have made indispensable contributions to Israel's industrial development, economic growth and national security. These achievements have brought Israel to the forefront of high technology.



Aerial view of Technion City (1994).

We welcome the members and observers:

ARGENTINA: Mrs. Elia Rouso de Bladsky; Mr. Abraham Fiszbein; Mr. Israel Mahler; Dr. Paul Wanshovsky; AUSTRIA: Prof. Malcolm Chalkin O.B.E. & Mrs. Lyn Chalkin; Mr. Frank Cooper; Mrs. Chaim & Mrs. Dina Gringlas; Mr. Jack & Mrs. Dianne Gringlas; Mrs. Susan Hachon; Dr. & Mrs. Henry Kravitz; Mr. & Mrs. Naomi Marks; Mr. Mark & Mrs. Sira Neidshinsky; Mr. Sam & Mrs. Ada Neidshinsky; Mr. Alex & Mrs. Bronka Skowronski; Mr. Herbert & Mrs. Florence Van Elan; AUSTRIA: Dipl. Ing. Helmut & Mrs. Mabel Gutmann; BRAZIL: Mrs. Shula Faier; Mr. Maurice & Mrs. Dalia Shashoua; Misses Ruth and Tamar Shashoua; Ing. Sander & Mrs. Mariana Szego; CANADA: Mr. David J. Azriel C.M.; Mrs. Shirley Bette; Mr. Morley & Mrs. Marjorie Blankstein; Mr. Sydney & Mrs. Florence Cooper; Mrs. Yehuda Gold; Mr. Mitchell Kunin; Mr. Reuben & Mrs. Sybil Kunin; Mr. Harold & Mrs. Harriet Lauer; Mr. Norbert Rand; Mr. Arnold & Mrs. Sharyn Recht; Messrs. 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Palestinian prisoners wave a poster of PLO leader Yasser Arafat as they arrive yesterday at the Gaza checkpoint, where they were handed over to the Palestinian Police. (Reuters)

Hundreds of prisoners freed

THE government released several hundred Palestinian prisoners yesterday, but a watchdog group said the releases lagged far behind what was agreed.

The IDF spokesman's office said those released were not members of militant Islamic groups opposed to the peace process and had not killed Israelis. The statement gave the number of released only at "several hundred."

Israel Radio said some 200 freed prisoners arrived in the Gaza Strip by early evening and

more were expected later.

The Mandela Institute, an eastern Jerusalem-based Palestinian watchdog group, said Israel has freed only some 2,000 of the 5,000 prisoners it had agreed to release by now under the Cairo agreement.

A statement by the group also complained that those released were required to sign a statement pledging to avoid violence and support the peace process, which was not a part of the agreement.

"The prisoner release, designed

to be a confidence-building measure... (has) produced the opposite effect," it said.

Military sources said that the delay in releases resulted partly from Palestinian rejection of a demand that some of those released remain in the autonomous zones only.

Wael Zuwaed of Gaza City, who was serving a life sentence for killing three suspected Palestinian collaborators and heading a Fatah cell, said the prisoners were only told in the morning that they would be released. (AP)

US won't offer refugee solution

HILLEL KUTTLER
WASHINGTON

THE US will not offer its own initiatives for alleviating the plight of refugees, a senior US administration official said yesterday.

In a half-hour, satellite-beamed briefing with journalists in Jerusalem and Amman, deputy assistant secretary of state Daniel Kurtzer said the multilateral talks offer a "roadmap" for dealing with the refugee question.

However, "the US position has been that it's for the parties to negotiate such a just solution," said Kurtzer, the State Department's top official involved in the refugee talks, which are chaired by Canada.

"The sum total of what we're trying to do is to alleviate the worst conditions" to "enable the statesmen to work out solutions," he said.

"The US has not at all proposed any solutions, in part or in full, to the refugee issue," said Kurtzer. "It was not for an outside party—whether the US or anyone else—to propose specific solutions."

Similarly, the US will not articulate a position on the ultimate status of the refugees, he said.

Under the terms of the Oslo accord, the long-term solution to the question of refugees—including those from the 1948 and 1967 wars—is considered a final-status issue that does not need to be negotiated until 1995.

However, the multilateral talks deal with alleviating the day-to-day conditions of the refugees.

The US defines refugees as "any people displaced as a result of the Arab-Israeli conflict," Kurtzer said.

Government considers closing Orient House

Jerusalem Post Staff

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin said yesterday the government remains adamantly opposed to the creation of Palestinian "governmental" institutions in Jerusalem and is considering closing Orient House.

"If Faisal Hussein wants to be a member of the Palestinian Authority, he will need to work in Jericho," Rabin told Israel Radio. "If he wants to continue to work in Jerusalem, he cannot be a member of the Palestinian Authority."

Asked if this meant the government intends to close Orient House, the prime minister replied, "We will examine that step. The attorney-general has already been working on that for two weeks."

Rabin noted that, in Jerusalem over the years, "a number of bod-

ies that administer services have sprung up, some justifiably, for the Palestinian residents in the territories." He cited the Walf, responsible for the Temple Mount; Mokassad Hospital, which has existed for years under various governments; and others "that do not have any governmental significance."

However, Rabin said, "We intend to examine in what measure the PLO will attempt to establish governmental bodies in Jerusalem, and it is possible... that special legislation will be needed in order to fight this phenomenon."

"The PLO undertook an obligation that all government bodies of the Palestinian Authority, for the interim period, will be located in Jericho. We will insist on this, even if special legislation is necessary."

IDF patrol attacked in zone; no casualties

DAVID RUDGE

GUNMEN attacked an IDF patrol with Sagger anti-tank missiles in the Aishiyeh region in the eastern sector of the security zone yesterday afternoon.

There were no casualties among the IDF troops who returned fire. IDF and South Lebanese Army gunners also shelled suspected terrorist targets north of the zone in response to the incident.

Despite ongoing clashes, there was no intention of sending reinforcements to the north military sources said.

However, the full alert status since the IAF raid on Hizbullah's training base last week remains in effect.

Meanwhile, Hizbullah issued a statement yesterday denying any

involvement in the recent kidnapping of six Lebanese civilians, and a Syrian in the Ba'albeck region.

Reports from Lebanon said the six were snatched in connection with Hizbullah's ongoing internal investigation into the kidnapping of Believers Resistance leader Mustafa Dirani in a daring IDF commando raid and the IAF's strike on the organization's training camp.

A report last night said the six were briefly questioned by their captors, although it was not clear whether or not they were released. Hizbullah said one or more Lebanese agents helped Israel in connection with both raids.

Number of men complaining of sexual crimes rises

THE number of men complaining of sexual assault and rape to the Tel Aviv Rape Crisis Center rose to 137 last year from 58 in 1992, according to figures in a report to be released next week by the Association of Rape Crisis Centers in Israel.

Nine men complained of rape, 10 of gang rape and 18 said they were victims of incestuous assaults, said Nili Nimrod, coordina-

tor of the association.

Some 80% of the overall male victims were assaulted by males, said Nimrod, while the remaining 20% were victims of incestuous attacks carried out by females.

Seven rape crisis centers affiliated with the association currently operate nationwide. Two additional non-member centers opened last year in Taibe and Jerusalem, the latter dealing with

hared women's problems.

Last year the association said it received 4,280 complaints by women, 2,260 of them victims of sexual assault or rape and the remainder suffering mainly from intrafamilial violence.

Some 63% of victims of sexual attacks said they were raped, with about a third of those being raped

by a family member.

"The number of incest victims has risen over the years," said Nimrod, who added that this might only mean that victims simply report attacks more readily than previously.

In 1990, 148 women reported incestuous attacks and 198 in 1991. But in 1992, the numbers jumped to 403 and last year rose again to 500.

Some 33% of victims of sexual assaults were attacked by a family member or partner, with only 16% of attacks perpetrated by strangers.

Only 17% of women who report sexual attacks to rape crisis centers complain to police, said Nimrod.

Police received 522 complaints from women that they had been raped last year.

Ben-Gurion's 1962 diary published

AMIR ROZENBLIT

FORMER prime minister and defense minister David Ben-Gurion once told a young officer that, while he appreciated his abilities, "you must overcome certain habits."

The officer in question was an Armored Corps officer named Ariel Sharon, who in July 1962 sought the command of a reserve brigade.

The remark is one of many observations that were revealed to the public yesterday by the Ben-Gurion Archive at Sde Boker, with the publication of the 1962 volume of Ben-Gurion's diaries.

Although certain portions remain censored due to national security and personal discretion, the volume contains many observations which are still timely.

With regard to Sharon, B-G wrote that he would try to ensure his receiving the brigade command in the following year, pro-

vided that "You must show an example of self-restraint." Other issues about which Ben-Gurion recorded comments—

• On ethnic discrimination: "In Israel there are no Diaspora communities, only Jews who originated in various Diaspora communities. The problem is not the origin, but the spiritual and material gap that exists between most of those of Asian and African origin and the majority of those who came from Europe and America."

• On wiretapping: "[Justice Minister Dov] Joseph has initiated a bill to authorize wiretapping for security purposes and to ban it privately. 'We,' says [General Security Service chief] Isser Harel, 'want to limit wiretapping for the purpose of national security, as in all democratic countries.' Joseph proposes authorizing the GSS, the police, and military intelligence to monitor, and to give the licenses

ing authority to the defense minister. Isser feels it's not good for the defense minister to give authorization, since the defense minister is not responsible to the GSS."

• On the position of the prime minister in the eyes of the public: "Jews abroad complain that the esteem of government has fallen in Israel. The leadership does not lead the country. The people leads its leaders and runs ahead of them. Respect has decreased. The respect for statehood has been damaged. When the prime minister appears in public, he does not seem like a prime minister, but the head of a clique."

• On television: "In practice it has mostly a damaging educational effect. In any event, television is not yet desirable in Israel, since it would raise the standard of living and this should not be done until we achieve [economic] independence."

Shahal to form centrist group

SARAH HONIG

POLICE Minister Moshe Shahal said yesterday that he is about to set up a new, centrist "ideological circle" in the Labor Party.

Shahal said he would convene the first meeting of his circle on June 23, but refused to name those who might be invited to attend. The letters of invitation, he said, have not yet been sent out and will be addressed individually to the participants.

"I aspire to honest, serious politics and this means keeping the party away from the margins—be they of the left with their screams that they have triumphed over the middle-generation or of the latest bid by rightists elements to take over the party," Shahal said.

Likud to challenge Histadrut convention date in court

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

THE Likud's Histadrut faction intends to go to court in an attempt to prevent the Histadrut convention from meeting in 17 days, maintaining that the early date set for it is in violation of the labor federation's constitution.

Likud Histadrut faction chairman MK Ya'acov Shamai made the announcement yesterday, after the executive committee voted in favor of the convention date and agenda.

The Histadrut remains in a transitional period until the convention meets and swears in the new leadership. The Kupat Holim crisis and other matters cannot be attended to until this is done.

The executive committee meeting, the first since the political upheaval in the Histadrut elections, was one of the stormiest remembered in this house.

Throughout the debate, which focused on a heated argument between the Likud and the Citizens Rights Movement and Mapam (still separately seated factions), there were loud shouts, interruptions and an unceasing stream of people talking loudly at the entrance while filing in and out of the hall.

According to the Likud's legal adviser, convening the convention at the end of the month would be illegal because of a clause in the Histadrut constitution requiring three months from the day the executive committee sets the convention date and at least six weeks from the day the agenda is determined.

The Likud boycotted the vote on the convention date when their demand was rejected that the Histadrut's legal adviser be consulted before holding the vote.

CRM faction head MK Ran Cohen said Kupat Holim's desperate

situation makes it impossible to postpone the convention.

He said the fate of 3.5 million Kupat Holim members is at stake and accused the Likud of a "lack of responsibility and recklessness to put the convention off, as well as a rejection of the voter's decision."

Cohen charged the Likud government with causing the Kupat Holim crisis in the first place "by drying it up and depriving it of the funds to enable its survival. So go check with [former prime minister] Yitzhak Shamir about who abandoned the fate of health here, and then talk about the constitution, honesty and decency."

Cohen further accused the Likud of trying to postpone the convention so it can continue receiving Histadrut funds according to the old power balance of 27 percent for three more months, rather than 10% less. "If that's the idea, forget it," he said.

Commenting on what he called the Likud's "thuggish behavior," Cohen said that when he is executive committee chairman, he will see to it that anyone who behaves in a rowdy way is taken out of the room, like in the Knesset.

Cohen denied that he had spoken of "hundreds of dismissals. There will be no mass dismissals or political dismissals. We are responsible for all the workers. But we won't lie; the Histadrut will have to undergo a reorganization and reform, so I can't swear to all those working today that their livelihood is safe."

Joint List leader Binyamin Gonen said "there will be no political dismissals and no worker will be hounded because of his or her political affiliation. The leadership is to blame and will pay for what happened."

NEWS IN BRIEF

NRP to pick delegates next week

National Religious Party members will be voting for convention delegates next Tuesday. Party leader Ze'evulun Hammer said yesterday.

The convention is then to decide whether to adopt the primary system for electing its chairman and Knesset candidates.

Israeli travel to Turkey up 680%

Travel by Israelis to Turkey increased by 680 percent during the first two months of 1994, compared with the same period last year, the Turkish Tourist Office announced yesterday.

In January and February, 19,120 Israelis visited Turkey, compared with 2,471 during the same two months in 1993. The total number of Israelis visiting Turkey in 1993 was 101,000, about double the number in 1992.

'Bridge collapsed due to faulty supports'

The public inquiry into the March 16 collapse of the overpass being built at Shapirim junction on the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem highway published its findings yesterday. The principal conclusion of the panel of experts was that "The collapse of the temporary supports of the bridge resulted from a combination of faults in the planning and placing of the support piers on which the prefabricated beams rested," namely, the extremely limited durability of the supports and the unequal distribution of the load upon them. Two motorists were killed when the bridge beams fell on their cars.

Family of Arab killed by IDF paid damages

The family of an Arab man, killed by IDF gunfire five years ago, was awarded NIS 50,000 in damages yesterday by the Jerusalem District Court.

The judge ordered the state to pay damages for the income Mohammed Ayoub would have earned for his parents.

Rahat to be given status of city

An Interior Ministry committee appointed to examine the status of Rahat has unanimously recommended that the Beduin town be given the status of a city.

Rahat, first populated by Negev Beduin in 1972 to provide a permanent residence for the community, will be the first Beduin settlement to become a city.

SOS Animals to hold adoption day

It's puppy and kitten season and SOS Animals is holding a special adoption day tomorrow to find these pets good homes. Older dog and cats of all types will also be available. Potential owners should call the group at 03-5441045 or 03-6056895.

With sorrow, we announce the passing of

DIANA HIRSCH

in Cape Town, South Africa, on June 6, 1994.

Deeply mourned and sadly missed by

Her daughter: Hilary, David, Lisa and Natalie

Moshav Zippori

Our beloved husband, father, brother and son is gone to his eternal rest

DAVID FRANK דוד

He was killed in a road accident.

Barbara, Timna and Joel Frank

Leib and Lufi Frank

Gil and Mavis Kaynar

Lironne and Ofer Bar-Sadeh

The funeral will take place at the Ness Harim cemetery, today,

Friday, June 10, 1994, at 1:00 p.m.

A bus will leave The Jerusalem Post building at 12 noon.

Shiva will be observed at the Frank residence, Zur Hadassah (Ezra Ha'amuta).

THE JERUSALEM POST

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Ramon's test

GETTING public money to save the Histadrut health fund may take longer this time than in the past – the Knesset finance committee's resistance has been unexpectedly tough – but ultimately the government will get its way. The NIS 485 million for which Finance Minister Avraham Shohat has asked will almost certainly be infused this weekend into the labor federation's bankrupt Kupat Holim Clalit.

The immediate result will be that Clalit's employees will get their salaries; services to patients will be only slightly reduced; and creditors and suppliers will be paid token amounts and told to wait. The strike by Clalit workers and doctors, called for Sunday, will be canceled or at least postponed.

Shohat, who until yesterday said the only solution is the appointment of an executive receiver who will suspend all debt payments and impose expenditure cuts, is now looking for alternatives. If a real recovery plan is implemented, he said yesterday, there is no need for a receiver. Some legal authorities even doubt the legality of appointing a receiver for an institution that is not a business but a voluntary organization.

But what is beyond doubt is that with or without a receiver, the government will have to shell out vast sums to keep the health fund on its feet. Chances are such subsidies will be supported by an increasingly impatient Knesset only if a comprehensive recovery plan is rigorously instituted.

A fundamental recovery is precisely what MK Haim Ramon, the Histadrut's secretary-general-elect has promised to effect. His current balking at ideas he supported in the past, such as the sale of Histadrut properties, may be no more than a principled refusal to approve any major steps before he assumes the responsibilities of power. But there is no escaping the measures that must be taken if Kupat Holim Clalit – which provides medical insurance and services to 70 percent of the population – is to survive.

The vast Histadrut properties include real estate and shares in conglomerates and industries. Even a partial sale of these can wipe out Clalit's NIS 5 billion accumulated deficit.

The Histadrut's bureaucracy is so tumes-

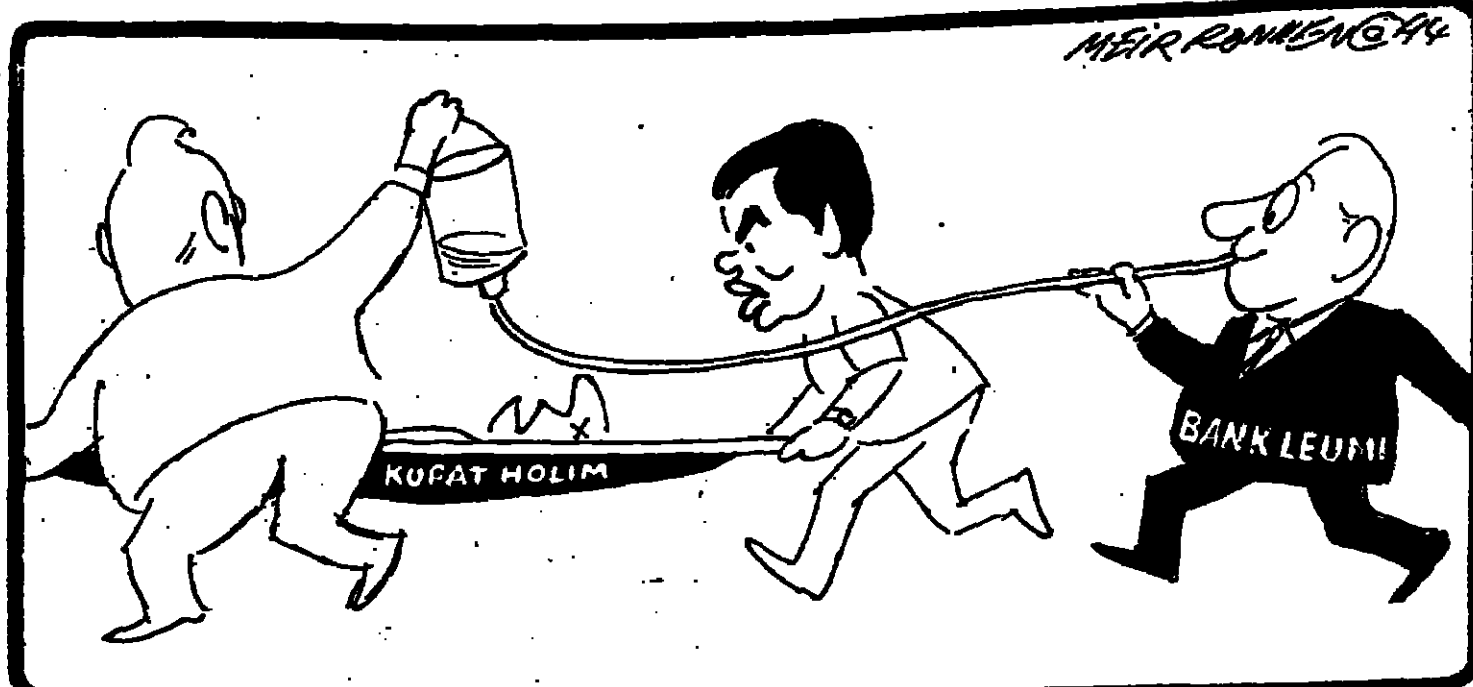
cent that it can dismiss hundreds of workers without significantly affecting its services. It employs 600 persons just to collect membership dues from members, something the new national health insurance law should make virtually superfluous.

Average salaries of Kupat Holim doctors are 30 percent higher than those of their colleagues in government hospitals. Temporary cuts in these wages may have to be made as part of a recovery program. On the income side, too, corrections of glaring inequalities will have to be implemented. Some groups now insured for laughable token fees will have to forfeit their privileges. Dues of the lower-income members will have to be raised.

These are all as necessary as they are painful. Without introducing such measures Clalit cannot survive. As it is, members are leaving in droves, and they are mostly the most solid ones, who can easily be accepted in other health funds: young, middle-income, highly insurable candidates. An ever-growing proportion of older members will only exacerbate Clalit's problems.

Once the emergency resuscitations are implemented, Ramon will have to decide whether he will be true to his promise to effect a separation between Clalit and the Histadrut, or continue to keep the health fund as a resource of membership and funds for the organization he will soon be heading. The older guard he beat in the Histadrut elections may represent anachronistic thinking, but they are correct in warning that the Histadrut will become almost completely powerless if it is deprived of the Clalit connection.

Few politicians have been known to relinquish power voluntarily. If Ramon keeps his pledge to make Kupat Holim Clalit just another health fund, and if he turns the Histadrut into just another labor federation, he will be an historic exception. It is a gamble he may win if the move enables him to acquire even greater power – the country's premiership. But it will surely cost him the support of the party machines for which life without the Histadrut is unimaginable. What route he chooses will tell much about his character, and his ability to transcend party politics for the national good.



The Jerusalem letter bomb

MOSHE ZAK

THE day after Foreign Minister Peres wrote to the late Norwegian foreign minister undertaking, in Israel's name, to promote Palestinian institutions in Jerusalem, the Reuters news agency reported a speech on Jerusalem by Jordan's King Hussein.

In the speech, televised on October 12, 1993, the king stated: "The Hashemite dynasty will in no circumstances give up its claims in Jerusalem."

This came as a major surprise. What had impelled Hussein to register this claim a month after the conclusion of the Israel-PLO agreement, which froze discussion on the status of Jerusalem?

Prime Minister Rabin and Peres didn't imagine that the letter to Norway had been leaked to the Jordanian king. They knew – Dr. Hanan Ashrawi confirmed this week – that the PLO had promised to keep quiet about it. But King Hussein was aware of what was going on between Israel and the PLO.

Israel's cabinet ministers had to wait until this week for the text of Peres's letter to his Norwegian counterpart. Not so Jordan's Crown Prince Hassan. Weeks ago, he had already reacted publicly by stating: "Jerusalem is not exclusively the affair of the Israelis and Palestinians. There is also a Jordanian interest."

Jordan's anger led to a modification in Israel's position as formulated in the letter to Norway. As the foreign minister said in Washington: "Jordanian involvement will be needed in any settlement on Jerusalem." This statement paved the way for renewal of the Israel-Jordanian di-

ologue in Washington.

But the Washington talks would have ended without any breakthrough, had Israel not shown itself resolute in curbing the preferential status of Orient House in Jerusalem.

The PLO protested to the US, recalling the Peres's letter of as-

surance to his Norwegian opposite number; but the Jordanians were satisfied that this was their chance to press ahead in their negotiations with Israel.

Peres's missive to the PLO made Hussein mad. That's why he pressured Israel to clamp down on Orient House

Jerusalem.

The Declaration of Principles aroused Amman's doubts about future relations with Israel. When Peres visited the king's palace last November, he expected some step in the direction of an agreement with Israel. But Hussein held back. He was dismayed at Israel's bypassing him and talking directly to the PLO, when he had wanted to be the conduit. The Palestinian entity, in Jordan's view, should have found expression in a Jordanian framework.

In economic negotiations with the PLO, Israel prevented the "liberation" of the Palestinian economy from the Jordanian dinar. But the Jordanians criticized other clauses of the agreement, generating the need for Israeli-Jordanian economic talks.

That was the main motive behind the current round of discussions in Washington. The Jor-

dans received a comprehensive explanation of Israel's economic arrangements for the Palestinian self-government authority, thus easing their own economic negotiations with the Palestinians.

The Washington talks wouldn't have ended on an optimistic note, with the decision to move them to Eilat and Akaba, had the Jordanians not been convinced that differences between Israel and the PLO over Jerusalem still existed.

Police minister Moshe Shaleh's notifying Faisal Hussein that Israel would block a Palestinian political stronghold in Jerusalem contributed to a lowering of tension between Israel and Jordan.

But the king is finding it difficult to accept Israel's denial of understandings reached in hundreds of hours of conversations according to which he will retain the leading position in representing the Moslems in Jerusalem.

Peres's letter sounded a warning to Hussein. The king didn't calm down until Peres's announcement promising that Israel would not allow the Palestinian authority to base itself in Jerusalem.

In normal times, such public pronouncements would be enough to satisfy Hussein. But the affair of Peres's letter to the Norwegian foreign minister could harm Israel's credibility.

Upsetting a relationship of trust, especially over the sensitive issue of Jerusalem, could have an adverse effect on Israel's dialogue with Jordan.

The writer, a veteran journalist, comments on current affairs.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POLICE BRUTALITY

Sir, – I was a victim of police brutality during the demonstration that took place May 21 in Jerusalem.

My husband and I were standing with the rest of the demonstrators when suddenly, without any provocation on our part, we were pushed by a policeman. Even though I was obviously pregnant, it did not prevent him from shoving me again, this time causing my husband and me to fall to the ground. A third person fell down on top of us, breaking my foot.

Today I am confined to crutches, and have difficulty taking care of my two small children. The policeman refused to identify himself. Like most of the policemen, he did not wear his identification tag. It is virtually impossible for me to file a complaint against him.

I appeal for help. Maybe one of your readers witnessed the attack.

STEPHANIE OFAN

Ofra.

"MAS AHID"

Sir, – In his report of June 1, Dan Izenberg refers to "the Histadrut's decade-long practice of collecting the health tax on behalf of Kupat Holim Clalit, which it owns, and siphoning off 25 percent of the funds for its organizational needs." This is a distortion of the facts.

The Histadrut and its medical insurance fund, Kupat Holim, used to collect their membership fees separately. About half a century ago, the two fees were combined as *mas ahid*, which is divided between Kupat Holim, other Histadrut social service institutions, and the federation's organizational expenses.

Mas ahid is not a "health tax," but a membership fee covering the Histadrut's various activities, of which Kupat Holim is only one, if the most important.

MISHA LOUVISH

Jerusalem.

DESPICABLE OP-ED

Sir, – Excuse me, but there is no rationale for you to print that despicable op-ed from the *Washington Post*. "For pay, they'll go away" (June 1). It insults me, my neighbors and friends. We are not whores, ready to do anyone's will at as high a price as we can get.

BATYA MEDAD

Shiloh.

PIPE DREAMS

Sir, – The "news" manufactured all the time by the present Israeli regime would be amusing, were it not so indicative of the contempt in which ministers and senior officials hold the ordinary Israeli, and their belief that he is so gullible that he will swallow whatever nonsense the government dishes up.

Several months ago, Energy Minister Shaleh triumphantly announced that Qatar was that week going to sign an economic agreement with Israel to sell us piped gas. Sheer pipe dream.

On May 27, you reported that our authorities expect Rafael Industries to secure an order for air-to-air missiles from Britain. Wishful thinking. There is no substance to this fantasy.

The same goes for the story disseminated by the foreign ministry on May 25 that the Vatican was going to apologize for Catholic complicity in the persecution of Jews over the centuries and in the Holocaust. It wasn't.

I suggest that *The Jerusalem Post* regularly publish a follow-up for the benefit of its readers on the fulfillment or otherwise of the bombastic plans, promises and expectations of Messrs. Rabin, Peres, Beilin, Shaleh and Company.

MURRAY GORDON

Jerusalem.

OBJECTIONABLE REMARKS

Sir, – I must protest against the remarks attributed to Prime Minister Rabin and a senior IDF officer about "eager, disciplined and cooperative" Palestine Police having problems because "of the political leadership, which has failed to provide for them adequately" (May 26). On the other hand, "when an IDF brigade replaces another, it is much less organized than what we have... seen from the Palestinians."

What a terrible way to lower the morale of our soldiers. How about blaming the appropriate IDF leadership?

My son-in-law just left for 30 days of reserve duty. His absence causes hardship to his family and employer and we pray for his safe return. But he will perform his duty and I would like to think that he and his comrades can at least be sure of the support and appreciation of their government.

RENA J. GORDON

Jerusalem.

MR. PERES'S DECEPTION

Sir, – I was surprised that *The Jerusalem Post* inferred that I supported Foreign Minister Shimon Peres's position on "Orient House" in Jerusalem. No such thing occurred. The opposite is true.

Mr. Peres has committed a deception. He has deceived the citizens of Israel, the Knesset and apparently the government or part of it. The letter, the sending of which to Arafat through the Norwegian foreign minister was kept secret while false information was disseminated, legitimates the existence and expansion of Palestinian "government" institutions in Jerusalem. This is yet another step in the realization of Arafat's plan to turn Jerusalem into the capital of the Palestinian state. That a "government" of the "embryonic Palestinian state" began its activities in Jerusalem under the premiership of Mr. Shamir does not ameliorate Mr. Peres's grave deed, apparently done with the prime minister's knowledge.

As a member of the Shamir government I fought for years to have Orient House closed and halt the activities of the PLO leadership in Jerusalem, just as I am doing now. At the time, it was one of the reasons I resigned from the Shamir government.

All the PLO institutions, including Orient House, must be shut down and transferred immediately to Gaza or Jericho, whichever the Palestinians choose. Every day, new facts are created which we shall not be able to reverse.

ARIEL SHARON MK

Jerusalem

CALL FOR TOLERANCE

Sir, – Our long history of being a persecuted and hated people demands that the Jewish nation lead the fight against hatred of "any" group. However, prior to claiming this mantle, we must first rid the Jewish people of hatred within it.

The entire Jewish nation should be disturbed, as Yael Dayan was at the Yad Vashem incident. Yet as she pleads for the acceptance of all groups (June 3), she simultaneously attacks, degrades and ridicules all observant Jews. Once again, she demonstrates that she is unable to tolerate anyone with religious beliefs – skullsaps – or political ideas to the right of her own.

Unfortunately, as long as people like those who rioted at Yad Vashem and those who stir hatred against all those with skullsaps exist amongst us, we will remain a divided as well as despised people.

ARI SILBERMINTZ, M.D.

Herzliya.

Labor's hawks with a dovish sheen

YOSEF GOELL

WHAT significance does this week's launching of the Third Way movement have for the coming stages of negotiations with the Palestinians, Syrians and Jordanians?

This past Sunday, many hundreds of Labor hawks, most of them gray-haired ex-officer types, former politicians and old-time kibbutz and moshav leaders, filled the lecture hall at the United Kibbutz Movement's Ramat Eyal seminar center to overflowing.

Several score were given the microphone to declare their devotion to the principle of territorial compromise in exchange for peace, but their adamant opposition to ceding the Golan Heights, the Jordan Rift Valley and the greater Jerusalem area, including the Etzion Bloc. They represented close to half of the party's Knesset faction and a smattering of its cabinet ministers and deputy ministers.

How seriously should such protestations be taken?

It is difficult to give clear-cut answers to these questions, since the speakers were nearly all politicians, clearly motivated both by principle and by personal political interest. It is virtually impossible to predict how much backbone any politician will display when the two come into conflict.

One speaker, hinting that the premier was on their side, reported on a meeting held last week between the organizers of the Third Way and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. He said he couldn't divulge Rabin's attitude to their proposed initiative, but emphasized that the Prime Minister's Office, which is virtually devoid of pictures, is dominated by a portrait of Rabin's mentor and Palmah commander, Yigal Allon.

The speakers who declared their total confidence in Rabin implied that the premier continues to be guided by the prescriptions of the Allon Plan, which calls for a territorial compromise in which Israel would retain areas of crucial security significance, relatively unpopulated by Arabs.

The operative challenge facing

the Third Way, these spokesmen asserted, was to prevent Rabin's being swamped by the dovish leftists in the party and in the government coalition, and pushed leftward into making fatal concessions to the Arabs.

Another speaker told a story attributed to Zalman Aranne, stalwart of Mapai (forerunner of the Labor Party) in the '50s and '60s, and a longtime education minister in the Ben-Gurion cabi-

to play the complex game of enticing the Palestinians, Syrians and Jordanians to enter the process while not overstepping the security red lines in the promised concessions.

That carte blanche would now seem to have come to an end following the completion of the first-stage withdrawals from Gaza and Jericho, around which a very broad consensus existed between party hawks and doves.

The Third Way group has great potential. Will it get translated into political clout?

But that consensus doesn't extend to second-stage issues such as the degree of self-rule to be offered the Palestinians in the rest of the West Bank; the speed with which the terms of the final compromise with the Palestinians will be negotiated, or the offer of all of the Golan to the Syrians in exchange for a partial peace and a compensating American military presence. Above all, it doesn't extend to the question of power-sharing with the Palestinians in Jerusalem.

The timing of the Third Way's launching has even more to do with the realities of internal Labor politics.

It follows on the heels of Haim Ramon's capture of the Histadrut and the party hawks' fear that Ramon's and Meretz's triumph, and their takeover of the Histadrut machine, could lead to the doves taking over the party. This could result in their determining the makeup of its faction in the next Knesset.

Despite their protestations that they had no intention of constituting a formal counter-weight to Ramon's and Beilin's dovish "gang of eight," the Third Way's hawks were serving notice that they intended putting up a fight for control of the party, both as regards policy and their own political futures.

In the eight months since September 13, these Labor hawks have given Rabin carte blanche

Interestingly, one of the leading figures associated with this hawkish stand in the party, newly appointed health minister Ephraim Sneh, didn't attend Sunday's meeting. Although ministers Ya'acov Tsur and Shimon Sheer were there, Sneh – if and when he gets on top of the Kupat Holim catastrophe he inherited – might well end up becoming the spearhead of the new cabinet grouping.

But will it all make any difference? Will it have a major impact on what is and what is not offered the Syrians in the Golan, and the Palestinians in the forthcoming stages of negotiations on the West Bank and Jerusalem?

Potentially, the very size of the group of Labor politicians identified even at this stage with the Third Way would seem to give them great power potential. Whether this potential is actually translated into political clout, however, will be determined primarily by the degree to which a sufficient number of hawkish Laborites have the backbone to put principle before self-interest – or, more likely, conveniently identify their security-oriented principles with their political fortunes.

MK Avigdor Kahalani was seriously wounded on the Golan in the Six Day War, and commanded the armored brigade which stanchied the Syrian breakthrough there in the Yom Kippur War. If Labor approved concessions on the Golan beyond those called for by the party platform, he declared, he would leave the party.

This is the furthest Kahalani, who heads the Knesset Golan lobby, has ever gone. None of the other speakers at Eilat were so clear in their position. But Kahalani's statement may well encourage other hawkish MKs to brave the cold waters.

If a sufficient number do so, that supreme pragmatist, Yitzhak Rabin will have no alternative but to rein himself in.

Who knows? Perhaps Rabin brought the whole show upon himself?

The writer, a veteran journalist, comments on public affairs.

POSTSCRIPTS



Is it good for the Jews?

DAVID Ben-Gurion had the ability and courage to make political decisions, however unpopular and difficult. He was inevitably guided by the consideration: "Is it good for the Jews?"

As far as diplomatic relations with foreign countries were concerned, he believed that it was important to address himself to the nation's future needs.

This was why he agreed to accept reparations from Germany and establish diplomatic relations with it. Many people still recall the violent public struggle against the decision, led by Menachem Begin.

Fortunately, the country had a leader who was guided by the needs of the future; this was especially important in a country which could not be characterized as large or very strong in the modern world.

At the beginning of the 1950s, Spain proposed establishing diplomatic relations with Israel. Foreign minister Moshe Sharett turned the offer down because he didn't want ties with Franco or with a country which had driven Jews out 500 years earlier.

Thereafter, Israel spent many years trying to establish ties with this important Mediterranean country. It finally succeeded in the middle of the 1980s because of Spain's outstanding leader, Felipe Gonzalez, who had a very close personal relationship with the then prime minister, Shimon Peres.

I have always felt that maintaining diplomatic relations with a country is a purely technical matter, and in no way a reflection of approval or disapproval of its regime. In the early years of the state, one of Israel's most loyal supporters in the UN was a country whose government could be termed fascist and dictatorial: Nicaragua, under Gen. Somoza.

Over the years, we invested considerable effort in renewing diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union. These efforts bore fruit when the Soviet ambassador finally presented his credentials in Jerusalem one day before the demise of the Soviet Union.

The oppressive, dictatorial nature of the Soviet regime, the prisoners of Zion rotting away in the

CHAIM HERZOG

gulags, the anti-democratic nature of the regime and its open hostility toward Israel over the years — none of these realities deterred us from making every effort to renew diplomatic relations.

Israel understood that renewing relations with the Soviet Union reflected both a national and a Jewish interest.

FOR YEARS, we were maligned time and again because of our dip-

Israel's interests alone should determine whether it establishes diplomatic relations with any country

lomatic relations with South Africa.

We were attacked because of our trade with South Africa, which amounted to two-fifths of 1 percent of South Africa's trade (16 percent of South Africa's trade was with 49 of the 50 states on the African continent, and 40 percent was with the US and the European Community — but only Israel was attacked).

I can recall Israel being attacked in the UN because of its air links with South Africa and because El Al planes landed in Johannesburg. Those behind the attacks never mentioned the fact that much more important and larger international airlines flew to South Africa too.

I fail, therefore, to understand the Foreign Ministry's strange attitude to relations with Italy, one of the most important countries in Europe.

If the ministry's objection to the appointment of certain junior ministers had related to extreme antisemitism, one might understand its reservations about the new government. But nobody is suggesting that this was the case.

Besides, there was apparently no discomfort in the Foreign Ministry when, as a result of recent elections in Hungary, a government in which former communists dominated was elected. It would have been out of place for us to comment on the results of democratic and free elections in Hungary — as it was in the case of Italy.

Israel's strategic interests require the maintenance, and improvement, of relations with every country in the world, with perhaps a few extreme exceptions.

I do not know how Foreign Ministry officials regard the regimes in the Arab countries and in the Gulf States, where they were very flattered to be received some weeks ago.

Israel will welcome every move to establish diplomatic relations with countries such as Saudi Arabia, Syria, the Gulf States and Morocco, to mention but a few — despite the fact that their form of government does not exactly accord with our principles, or with those of the government of Norway, which reportedly had a hand in this recent approach toward Italy.

We can only relate to our long-term national interests, which must be the sole criterion in establishing relations. If we were to take the nature of regimes into account, we would have to break off relations with very many countries.

The Foreign Ministry refused to send the traditional congratulatory letter upon the new Italian government's installation, held up an Israeli delegation to sign a bilateral cultural protocol in Rome and announced that we would have to reassess our relations. These steps were entirely superfluous and certainly did not represent the interests of the State of Israel.

Lord Palmerston, British foreign secretary in the middle of the 19th century, said that Britain had no permanent enemies and no permanent friends; it had only permanent interests. This is the approach which should guide us today.

The writer was Israel's sixth president.



On the march, in Allah's name

GABRIEL BEN-DOR

ISLAMIC fundamentalism has rapidly revealed the naive, even irresponsibility, of the hope that the post-Cold War era will mark the "end of ideology."

It has shown itself a potent movement, replacing, in the minds of many intellectuals and policymakers, communism as the greatest ideological threat facing Western democracies in the foreseeable future.

Yet apologists hasten to add that Islamic fundamentalism is just one further form of "religious extremism." Hence, the implication seems to be, there's nothing particularly different about it. They are wrong. While it resembles other forms of extremism, it differs enough from them to be considered unique, perhaps a phenomenon in its own right. There are several reasons for this.

Islam is not a religion in the Western sense of the term, but a total civilization, making demands on the faithful in every sphere of life. Hence, Islam has never known a separation of "church" and state. On the contrary, everything that is Islamic quickly becomes politically relevant and politically dominant.

Islam has become the protest movement of the entire Third World against the values and traditions of the West. It is the rallying cry against its present materialistic values, as well as against its alleged past colonialist sins.

Islam is a young and militant faith. A Moslem friend of mine has argued that Judaism is the religion of the old and exhausted and Christianity the religion of the middle-aged, whose beliefs are full. Only Islam, he says, is the creed of the young, the militant, the devoted, of those "on the march."

Islam is a religion of the community, not of individuals, or even small groups. Its ideals can be realized only in full Islamic commu-

nities, which means that it has adopted, over the ages, a distinctly collectivist flavor.

Since the ideals of an Islamic community have to be realized in concrete, large political frameworks, Islam, unlike other religions, has an explicitly territorial

which are unprecedented in our era.

THESE POINTS add up to an ideology which is different in its basic principles from any other, and hence to one which has a unique form of extremism.

Islamic fundamentalism is unique — and uniquely dangerous

dimension, dividing the world into the Islamic realm and the sphere of the infidels. Under certain conditions, the latter becomes fair game for conquest and forcible conversion.

Islam has had a long legacy of jihad. True, on the theoretical and theological levels, jihad is a complex and even sophisticated concept (as we saw in the argument following Arafat's Johannesburg speech). However, in terms of popular (and hence politically potent) tradition, jihad is the classic holy war to liberate Islamic territory from its illegal occupiers.

In Islam, the idea of afterlife (i.e. the reward of going to heaven in return for dying for the faith) is taken with immediate seriousness, all but lacking in other modern religions. This seriousness produces a willingness for martyrdom, and hence the taking of extreme political and personal risks

Moslem scholars dislike the term fundamentalism, preferring substitutes such as "Islamism," for a phenomenon that is also known as extremism, radicalism, scripturalism or literalism.

Whatever the terminology, the resulting ideology is the toughest challenge faced by Moslem rulers in all 40 relevant countries, whose regimes are in as much danger from this fanatical potential as non-Moslem opponents and rivals.

Islamic fundamentalism may aim at the ultimate transformation of the world. But its immediate targets are the domestic regimes it needs to subvert in order to harness the state to its purposes, along with the smaller powers that share a common territory with Moslems, such as Israel.

Politically speaking, this means good news and bad news.

The bad news is that Israel is facing an enemy even more dangerous and determined than the older-style radical secular nationalism.

The good news is that there is ample, albeit tacit or even surreptitious, room for cooperation with other mainstream forces in the Middle East. Many moves by previously implacable enemies such as Syria's Hafez Assad can be explained not only by the disintegration of the Soviet Union, but also by the mortal fear of Islamic fundamentalism.

We need to recognize this phenomenon for what it is, an authentic, deeply-rooted, popular Islamic movement. Competition between the PLO and Hamas has to do at least as much with the clash between secular nationalism and Islamic fundamentalism as with the strategy of Palestinian statehood vis-a-vis Israel.

At the same time, it is important to realize that the enemy isn't Islam or Moslems, but the fanatical manifestation of Islamic extremism that threatens modernity, democracy and peace for all peoples of the Middle East and beyond.

Prospective partners in the peace process need to be aware of the danger lurking from the common enemy.

The writer is professor of political science at the University of Haifa and academic director for the graduate studies program at the IDF's National Security College.

POSTSCRIPTS

ONE MINUTE police officer Charles Jarusek was taking a shower, the next he was apprehending a suspected car thief in an incident that could have come out of the movie *Naked Gun*.

Jarusek, of Santa Ana, California, was in the shower when two hapless suspects fleeing police broke into his home to hide, believing it was empty.

The officer knew the men weren't there to offer him a towel, so he leaped out of the shower, pushed one of the men against a door and ordered him to lie down.

The second suspect ran out of the house — and into the waiting arms of pursuing police officers. Jarusek then grabbed his gun and held the first suspect, yelling to his fellow officers that he had the man in custody.

"When they came in, I told them I normally wear a gun and a badge," Jarusek quipped.

BOSTON DANCER Taylor Monet lays claim to having the world's first inflatable breasts. According to the *Washington Post*, Monet's high-tech mammaries are the result of an innovative "valve and hose" implantation that allows her to inject or extract a saline solution to vary the size of her silicone breasts between a minimum 40-D and a maximum 96.

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CANADA HAS come up with a formula that will make it the most wonderful country on earth: it wants to put a happy face on dealing with the bureaucracy.

"I want to change the way government operates so we are more client oriented," an enthusiastic Art Eggleton, minister for infrastructure, said. "You often hear of the great lies in society, like: 'the check is in the mail,' or, 'I'm from the government and I'm here to help you.' I want to make it true that public servants are there to help people."

The key to ending frustration over long lines, long waits and an unresponsive bureaucracy is what Eggleton calls "one-stop shopping." That is government boutiques spread over the country, where citizens can get help with taxes, apply for an agricultural subsidy, get information on export policy or pick up a form, all in one place.

In many instances, that may be a kiosk with a computer terminal where citizens punch in a query and the machine spits out the answer. For more complicated matters, it may be a highly trained employee who sits at the terminal, which is linked to most government agencies.

"Instead of shuffling around

from department to department, passing the buck, we want to give people the opportunity to deal with one person," said Eggleton.

"Right now government offices are probably backed up with lines, but a good number of those people are asking for information that's very easy to give," said Bernie Gorman, executive director of the Office of Information Management. "Others want to know complicated information. There is no differentiation."

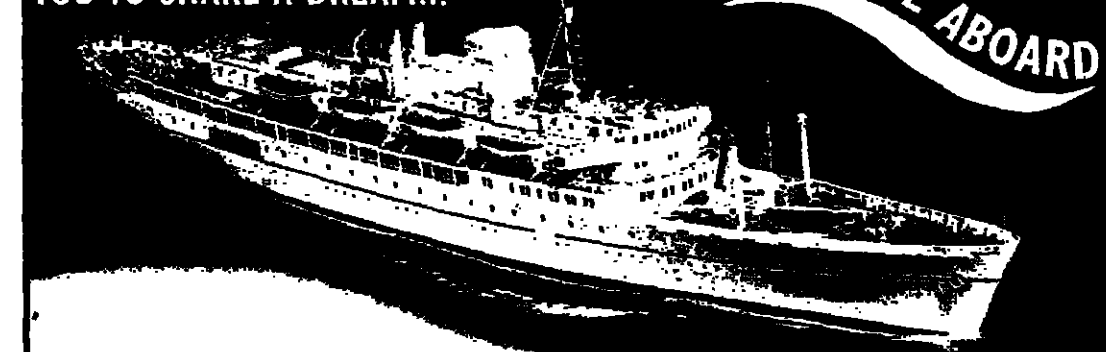
Ottawa figures one-stop shopping for government services, eventually integrated with provincial and perhaps even municipal services, will save billions of dollars.

A **BRITISH** man was found guilty of having sex with a dog after a video he made of the act was inadvertently shown to speechless wedding guests expecting to see a replay of a marriage ceremony.

The 59-year-old lent his video recorder to a friend to film the wedding, but forgot to erase from the tape scenes of himself in sex acts with a neighbour's bull terrier.

The man's lame explanation to the court was that the 10-minute film was an attempt at trick photography and featured only simulated sex acts.

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

A 8

FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 1994

Supply of unsold housing grows Kicking the Clalit political football around

JOSE ROSENFELD

THE supply of unsold housing units grew 3.1 percent in the first quarter of the year, despite a slight drop of 1.9% in the number of units for sale compared to the previous quarter, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported yesterday.

Although the government recently approved a plan to increase the supply of available housing, the stock of unsold housing grew since the first quarter of 1992 by nearly a third, and stood at 6,003 unsold units at the end of March.

The number of sales fell 9% in the first quarter to 3,715 units, after jumping 33.1% in the previous quarter and rising 19.9% in the third quarter last year.

Sales in the first quarter fell in the following cities: Beer-sheva, Givatayim, Herzliya, Holon, Kfar Saba, Netanya, Rishon LeZion, Rehovot, Ramat Ha-

sharon and Tel Aviv.

By contrast, sales picked up in Ashdod, Bnei Brak, Bat Yam, Hadera, Haifa, Kiryat Ata and Ra'anana.

Sales were unchanged in Jerusalem, Ashkelon, Petah Tikva and Ramat Gan.

The sales of one or two-room apartments, as well as four- or five-room apartments dropped, while sales of apartments with three or six rooms and over rose. Reflecting the drop in housing starts, the supply of housing for sale dropped to 9,720 units from 9,900 in the previous quarter.

Out of the 6,003 unsold units at the end of March, 83% were in the early stages of construction.

The bureau also reported that 40% of the unsold stock consisted of apartments of five rooms or more.

ONE cannot help feeling sorry for the management of Kupat Holim Clalit. Their task is truly a thankless one.

As if solving the fund's problems were not enough, management has been asked to do so without being able to make any substantive changes to the status quo. The Histadrut, which sets fund fees, skims cream off the top and chooses not to inject any cash. It also determines and controls Kupat Holim's income flow. The government, which negotiates pay deals with the fund's employees and sets per diem hospitalization rates, determines its expense levels.

Yet, management must bear some share in the responsibility for the current crisis. They should probably have raised the alarm sooner and one must question the wisdom of launching an expensive marketing campaign when the

fund was bleeding cash.

Kupat Holim, more than ever before, has become a political football. The Histadrut's existing leadership, its newly elected leadership, and the government are kicking it around and patients and employees are suffering. While one cannot determine what motives lie behind the rhetoric and rather fluid positions that the various parties are taking, one thing is certain: The government does not have the political will to impose any of the reforms required to put the fund back on a sound financial footing. It cannot even decide how to stabilize the current crisis.

The fears of the fund's employees are understandable. A receiver will deal with workers far more dispassionately than either the Histadrut or the government.

But if anyone is serious about a genuinely viable recovery plan

COMMENT

NEIL COHEN

then ultimately the same measures - job and/or pay cuts - will be required. The difference is that a receiver will be able to represent impartially the best interests of the fund rather than those of the Histadrut, its leadership and the government, which may not be the same. Freed from these political shackles he will be able to negotiate with suppliers (the government and employees) and raise prices where viable and necessary. Above all, the appointment of the receiver frees all its old debts, easing some of the immediate financial strain.

No one would argue that people should be asked to pay what they cannot afford but the many special interest groups who have negoti-

ated extra sweet deals cannot now be insulated from the economic reality facing the fund. And the receiver will be able, and, one hopes, willing to sue the Histadrut to force it to honor previously made, but as yet unfulfilled commitments, not to mention abrogating the enforced link between the fund and the Histadrut.

Kupat Holim employees will almost certainly be asked to take some of the pain. Until a receiver is appointed they can reasonably take the attitude that no one has the political will to mess with them and that as industrial action has worked in the past there is no reason why it should not in the future. They must recognize that cuts at all levels are inevitable. So far, though, it looks as though the government doesn't even have the stomach to appoint someone to

tackle the problems, let alone do so itself.

INTERPHARM

ARES Sero's tender offer for the 25% of Interpharm closes today. At the close on Wednesday the share price was trading a fraction shy of the \$22 on offer. While some investors are probably kicking themselves for not getting out when the price was in the 40's they can take some consolation that the \$22 represents a 70-odd percent premium to the stock price when the offer was made.

Despite the sand that some disgruntled investors are trying to kick in his face, Fabio Bertorelli, Ares Sero's controlling shareholder, is very unlikely to sweeten his offer. If the offer does not proceed the share price will likely slide back, albeit not to their lows. Shareholders should accept the offer or sell in the market.

US businesses boost plans for new investments

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Businesses plan the largest increase on spending for plants and new equipment in the past five years, the Commerce Department said yesterday, despite signs that the economic pace may be leveling off.

Spending to increase production this year is expected to grow by 8.3 percent to \$634 billion, according to a survey done in April and May. It updates one done during the first quarter this year that indicated companies would invest 8% more than in 1993.

The projected increase in capital spending is the strongest since companies spent 11.4% more to expand production in 1989.

About 5,000 companies in all lines of business, from manufacturing to mining and public utility,

were surveyed by the government to determine their spending plans.

Higher spending this year follows an exceptional burst of economic growth at the close of 1993.

But growth in gross domestic product - which measures the value of goods and services produced in the United States - slowed in the first three months of this year to a 3% rate from a sizzling 7% rate in the fourth quarter of last year.

Federal Reserve Board Governor Lawrence Lindsey told reporters Wednesday that he expected second-quarter growth to exceed the first-quarter pace. But overall for 1994, the central bank is forecasting 3% expansion in GDP.

The revised investment survey showed manufacturers intend to boost spending this year by 6.9%, down modestly from an earlier estimate of a 7.5% increase.

No agreement between Rafael workers and management

YIGAL KOTZER

REPRESENTATIVES of the Rafael workers' committee said yesterday they would continue talking with management, despite failing to reach an agreement after three days of marathon negotiations.

However, the employees refused to call off sanctions, a protest over the firing of 350 workers.

Union representatives said management informed the workers during yesterday's meeting that they planned to go ahead with the firings and to transform the authority into a corporation. They said the fact that management brought up these issues indicated they were not serious about reaching a compromise with the workers. They added that management refused to discuss their demands.

Rafael's spokesman Noah Shinar said management hoped to continue negotiations in order to solve the conflict with the workers.

Panel fails to approve construction guarantees

EVELYN GORDON

THE Knesset finance committee yesterday failed to approve NIS 750 million in government guarantees for residential construction, because a Housing Ministry representative failed to show up at the meeting.

"The program we are supposed to approve is part of the government's overall plan to reduce housing prices," explained MK Michael Eitan (Likud). "Since the representatives of the Housing Ministry, who pretend that the issue is very urgent and very important, never showed, we are forced to wait until they present the entire plan to us."

The Housing Ministry said that Adi Hadar, the ministry's deputy director-general for economics and finance, was scheduled to come to the meeting, but got lost on the way and finally arrived only 10 minutes before it ended.

"That happens to people in Tel Aviv," a ministry spokeswoman said. "He's from Ma'ale Adumim, and he doesn't know the city."

However, she added, it

shouldn't have happened, and Hadar apologized profusely.

The request for the loan guarantees is part of a ministry plan, approved by the cabinet last week, to encourage building in the center of the country.

The guarantees are meant to enable the banks to extend more credit to contractors without increasing their risk, and thereby allow contractors to begin more units without putting in additional capital.

The NIS 750m. is meant to cover some 40,000 units. Any contractor who starts work between June 1, 1994 and September 30, 1995 will be eligible for the guaranteed loans, on condition he finishes building within four years of the starting date.

The government's portion of the risk on each loan will be 80 percent for the first 5% of the loan, 60% for the next 5%, 40% for the following 5%, 20% for the next 5% and zero after that.

Thus, its total risk will not exceed 10% the loan.

Court issues injunction against Teva after Wellcome lawsuit

RACHEL NEIMAN

THE Tel Aviv District Court has issued interim injunctions against Teva in a patent infringement suit filed by Wellcome.

The injunctions prevent Teva from the manufacture, sale or use of acyclovir - the active ingredient in Wellcome's patented anti-herpes remedy, Zovirax.

Zovirax's patent is due to expire here in September 1995.

Teva brought a demand for a compulsory license before the comptroller of patents, on the grounds the patent was not used in Israel.

Wellcome filed suit, claiming patent infringement. Teva claimed in its defense that its research and manufacture was done in preparation for the date of expiry.

The court ruled that Teva had no right to use the patent, and it would have to use theoretical - not practical - proofs to gain the license.

Teva may resume manufacturing procedures after September. Wellcome's suit for damages will go to trial in three to four years.

Pioneer International Ltd

South African Economic Statistics

	Price \$6.94	Price 16.94	% Change
Exchange rates:			
(buy) Commercial rand	3.622	3.636	0.40%
(buy) Financial rand	4.800	4.755	-0.95%
Interest rates:			
(Ry)* Money market (BAs)	11.25%	11.20%	0.45%
Escom 2008	13.52%	13.22%	2.27%
Escom 2020	14.29%	13.93%	2.58%
RSA 150	14.27%	13.94%	2.37%
UAI Max Income	13.53%	13.29%	1.81%
Prices: Utl:			
(buy) OM Investments	40.2874	40.2937	-0.02%
Guardbank	35.1739	34.7957	1.09%
UAI Gilt	12.1626	12.2476	-0.69%
Max Income	10.64	10.6389	0.01%
De Beers	112.25	100.25	11.77%
Val Reef	401.00	395.00	1.52%
Anglo American	227.50	218.25	4.24%
Barlows	39.00	37.35	4.42%
SA Brews	94.50	96.00	-1.56%
Sasol	24.65	24.75	-0.40%
Tiger Oats	49.00	49.00	0.00%
Iscor	3.27	3.35	-2.39%
JSE Actuaries Overall	5,518	5,396	2.26%
*RY - running yield.			

COMMENTS: The drain on the Reserve Bank's gold and foreign exchange reserves continued in May, with a fall of more than R31m., bringing the overall figure to R7.17bn.

But economists have warned against reading too much into the decline, as it is likely that the Bank has used inflows to reduce its Forex overdrafts, instead of adding to the stock of currency.

The Bank's balance sheet showed a big drop in the physical stock of gold. However, because of the higher Rand Price at which it was valued, bullion reserves rose to R5.5bn from R5.4bn. Foreign currency assets fell almost R237m. to R1.62bn.

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Clal Investment House appoints managing director: Clal Investment House yesterday decided to appoint Reuven Sila managing director of the company.

Sila will take over from Yisrael Igza who is resigning to enter private business. In his last position, Sila headed Bank Leumi's business division in charge of investments, foreign currency and sophisticated transactions.

Scitex, Diamond institute win film awards: Scitex and the Israel Diamond Institute were among the winners in the third annual Industrial Film festival, held Wednesday at the Tel Aviv Museum. The festival, hosted by the Manufacturer's Association, marks a common ground for the film, commercial and military industries.

First prize in the products and materials category went to Scitex, with a 3-D animated trip through several imaginary worlds, each representing a different function of the "Whisper" system.

Ormat signs pact with Pratt and Whitney: Under an agreement with Pratt and Whitney, Ormat will be licensed to package and sell FT8 gas turbines.

Takeda Investments has purchased all the outstanding share capital in the Williger subsidiary G. Willi-Food, which began operations only recently as a one-product importer.

Tambour is negotiating to sell a 20% share in its subsidiary, Tzah, Israeli printing colors, to Swiss concern Sips Holding. Sips will have an option to purchase an additional 20% within the next two years.

Ogden operating and development systems will establish a subsidiary together with a private investor who will hold controlling interest. The company will make an initial investment of up to \$250,000, granting a 30% interest in the subsidiary. The company may invest an additional sum of up to \$175,000, representing an additional 20% share.

WORLD BRIEFS

Japan's top eight life insurance companies said yesterday their returns on investment fell sharply in the year to March, hit by declining interest rates at home and the yen's rise.

Britain's Lloyds announced first-half pre-tax profits of 41 million pounds (\$61.88 million) yesterday, nearly double last time but still disappointing to a market looking for firm evidence of a return to former glory.

British glass giant Pilkington Plc yesterday began what is likely to be a long haul back to its full potential with more than doubled earnings for the year to the end of March.

A one-off gain on the sale of its Sola lens business last year took pre-tax profit to £98 million pounds from £41m. pounds last time. Even without the Sola gain, earnings rose 57% to £72m. pounds, at the top end of forecasts.

A proposed \$5 billion employee buyout of UAL Corp., the parent of United Airlines, has run into more turbulence - its second largest shareholder said Wednesday it plans to vote against the deal to create the nation's largest employee-owned company.

The shareholder, Vanguard/Windsor Funds Inc., will vote against UAL's recently revised buyout plan, a spokesman for fund manager John Neff said. Valley Forge, Pa.-based Vanguard/Windsor Funds holds about 2.4 million shares, or 9.7% of UAL's stock.

Under the proposed plan, employees would make wage and work-rule concessions valued at \$5 billion for an initial stake of 55% in the parent company. In May, UAL agreed to new terms that boosted the employees' initial stake from 53%.

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS

Petah (foreign currency deposit rates) (S.G.94)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	3.750	4.125	4.625
U.S. dollar (\$100,000)	3.500	3.750	4.500
U.S. dollar (\$50,000)	4.125	4.125	4.250
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	3.250	3.250	3.500
Yen (10 million yen)	0.500	0.625	0.675

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (S.G.94)

Currency basket	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	Reg.
U.S. dollar	3.2250	3.2250	2.97	3.11	3.3100
German mark	1.8111	1.8267	1.78	1.86	3.0513
French franc	4.5644	4.5288	4.47	4.58	4.5082
Japanese yen (100)	0.5317	0.5382	0.51	0.55	0.5284
Dutch florin	2.9088	2.9476	2.85	2.99	2.9237
Swiss franc	1.6173	1.6401	1.59	1.69	1.6237
Swedish krona	2.1425	2.1727	2.10	2.20	2.1808
Norwegian krona	0.4194	0.4244	0.41	0.43	0.3845
Denmark krone	0.4461	0.4708	0.48	0.48	0.4220
Finland mark	0.5482	0.5538	0.54	0.54	0.4677
Canadian dollar	2.2017	2.2322	2.16	2.26	0.5513
Australian dollar	2.2209	2.2522	2.18	2.28	2.2201
S. African rand	0.6284	0.6482	0.68	0.68	2.2380
Belgian franc (10)	0.8822	0.8928	0.84	0.87	0.8433
Austrian schilling (10)	2.6746	2.6108	2.83	2.83	0.8972
Italian lire (1000)	1.2718	1.2890	1.23	1.23	2.5982
Jordanian dinar	—	—	—	—	1.9982
Egyptian pound	—	—	—	—	4.2714
ECU	3.5008	3.5503	4.35	—	0.5206
Irish punt	4.4810	4.6738	4.25	—	3.5682
Spanish peseta (100)	2.2181	2.2463	2.15	2.30	4.4982
					2.2340

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

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US dollar	NIS 3.0510 - 0.07%
Sterling	NIS 4.6062 - 0.07%
Mark	NIS 1.8262 - 0.45%

NEW YORK STOCK MARKET

New York market indexes

Index	Value	Change
DJ Industrial	5753.14	+1.39
DJ Transport	1055.17	-0.28
DJ Utility	1055.17	-0.28
DJ Comp	1055.17	-0.28
NYSE Dow Jones	3101.11	+0.01
NYSE S&P 500	2507.07	+0.01
NYSE NASDAQ	2507.07	+0.01
NYSE NYSE	2507.07	+0.01
NYSE NYSE	2507.07	+0.01
NYSE NYSE	2507.07	+0.01

Other stock market indexes

Index	Value	Change
FTSE 100	2602.9	+0.3
DAX	1055.17	+0.01
Nikkei	1055.17	+0.01

Israeli stocks in NY

Stock	Price	Change
Bank Leumi	1055.17	+0.01
Bank Hapoalim	1055.17	+0.01
Bank Leumi	1055.17	+0.01

US dollar cross rates (US)

Currency	Rate	Change
US dollar	1.0000	0.00
British pound	1.6500	+0.01
Japanese yen	100.00	+0.01

Libor rates

Rate	Value	Change
3 months	5.00%	0.00
6 months	5.00%	0.00
12 months	5.00%	0.00

Foreign financial data courtesy of

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Tel. 02-611421, 660002

US commodities

Commodity	Price	Change
Crude oil	1055.17	+0.01
Gold	1055.17	+0.01
Silver	1055.17	+0.01

London commodities

Commodity	Price	Change
Crude oil	1055.17	+0.01
Gold	1055.17	+0.01
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Spot metal futures

Commodity	Price	Change
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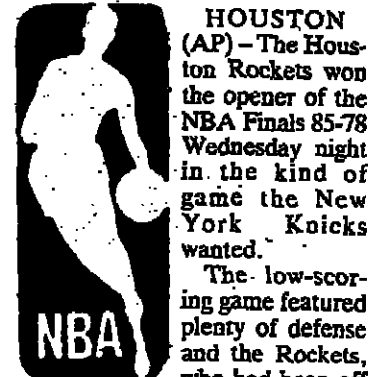
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Rockets beat Knicks in opener



HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Rockets won the opener of the NBA Finals 85-78 Wednesday night in the kind of game the New York Knicks wanted.

The low-scoring game featured plenty of defense and the Rockets, who had been off for eight days, were able to hold the scrappy Knicks who couldn't pull off another playoff comeback.

The Rockets had a 77-65 lead with 8:53 left and that dwindled to three with 2:13 remaining. But a free throw by Hakeem Olajuwon, who had 28 points, and a dunk by Otis Thorpe, who had 16 rebounds, built the lead to 82-76 with 1:02 remaining.

Patrick Ewing led the Knicks, who closed out a tough seven-game Eastern Conference final against Indiana on Sunday, with 23 points and Charles Oakley had 12.

The second half was the lowest scoring half in finals history as the Knicks outscored Houston 32-31. The previous low was 69 by Syracuse and Fort Wayne in 1955.

The Rockets scored their second-lowest points of the playoffs against the team with the NBA's best regular-season defense. It was the Rockets playing New York-style defense, holding the Knicks to 34.1 percent shooting.

"I'm just so happy. That's one step toward the right direction," Olajuwon said.

Game 2 of the best-of-7 series is tonight in Houston with New York scheduled to play host to the next three games.

The game was billed as a battle between centers Olajuwon and Ewing, who finished with 10 and nine rebounds, respectively.

Down the stretch, Ewing couldn't pull his team to victory the way he did in the clincher against Indiana with a follow-up that gave the Knicks the lead for good with 26 seconds remaining.

A jumper by Hubert Davis cut the Houston lead to 82-78, and when Robert Horry missed a 3-pointer with 38 seconds left, New York had a chance.

But Ewing's 3-pointer with 27 seconds to play, rimmed out, and Houston finished the scoring with a free throw by Vernon Maxwell with 21 seconds left and two by Sam Cassell with 7.4 seconds



CLASH OF TITANS — Houston's Hakeem Olajuwon (1) gets tangled up with New York's Patrick Ewing.

remaining.

The Knicks cut into the Rockets' lead as Ewing stayed in the game after getting his fifth personal foul with 5:19 to play. His basket with 4:31 to go cut the lead to 79-73. Horry missed two free throws and Anthony Mason came up with a three-point play for the Knicks to make it 79-76.

The Rockets are 9-2 since losing the first two games of the Western

Conference semifinals to Phoenix. Against New York, they've won six straight at home and eight of their last 10 games overall, including this season's wins of 94-85 and 93-73.

The Knicks loss reversed the trend of the last five NBA Finals in which Eastern teams were 13-1 on the road. This year, they are just 2-7 in playoff road games.

New York is in the finals for the

seventh time, the first since winning the title in 1973. Houston, which missed the playoffs just two years ago, lost its only two finals appearances to Boston in 1981 and 1986.

Neither Channel 2 nor Cable TV's Sports Channel 5 are planning to broadcast Game 2 of the Finals. Game 3 will be televised live on Channel 5 on Monday at 2 am.

Germany, Brazil live up to their reputations



TORONTO (AP) — In its last warmup game before defending its World Cup title, Germany beat Canada 2-0 Wednesday.

Sammer scored on a header off a cross from Andreas Brehme in the 30th minute. Voeller, who retired from the national team two years ago but returned last month at the urging of coach Berti Vogts, scored in the final minute.

German forward Mario Basler

twisted a knee during a tackle on David Norman and was carried off the field on a stretcher.

A capacity crowd of 20,144 filled Varsity Stadium and more watched from the rooftop gardens of nearby hotels.

Lothar Matthaus, the German captain, was pleased his team used 16 players during the game.

"You cannot win the World Cup with 11 players," Matthaus said. "In America we will need 18 or 19 players and it was good to see the whole team."

Also Wednesday, Belgium beat Hungary 3-1 and Bolivia played a scoreless tie with Peru. In a night game, Brazil beat Honduras in

San Diego.

Brazil 8, Honduras 2

Romario scored three goals and Bebeto had two, sending Brazil to an 8-2 rout over Honduras in a World Cup tuneup.

Dunga, Cafu and Rai also scored for the three-time world champions against overmatched Honduras, which failed to qualify for the upcoming tournament.

Brazil opens World Cup play against Russia on June 20 at Stanford.

Coach Carlos Alberto Parreira removed Romario two minutes after his third goal in the 60th minute.

Before a crowd of 21,322 at Jack Murphy Stadium, Romario scored in the first minute on a shot from atop the goal's box off a pass from Bebeto. He scored again in the 32nd minute.

OPINION / Aryeh Dean Cohen

Knicks have earned their respect

HATE 'em if you want to, but the New York Knicks' trip to the NBA Finals is nothing if not well-deserved.

Sure, their offense is uglier than the inside of the men's room at the Port Authority Bus Terminal, and picks set by the outlaw firm of Mason, Ewing and Oakley leave opposing players flatter than the Coke served by the Harry M. Stevens vendors. But these Bad Boys are a deserving bunch of NBA brown-baggers who've earned their ticket to the ultimate basketball showdown.

Take John Starks for starters, who'd throw his momma from a train to win a game. Not too long ago, he was bagging groceries in his native Oklahoma before taking his act around the CBA, until the Knicks brass saw him for the diamond in the rough he was. When Starks went out with a knee injury a few months ago, many a Knicks fan figured it was going to be a short playoff without him.

But Starks doesn't back down from any challenge. The knee injury was just one more jolt to overcome, like the shots to the head he gladly took in Game 7 to help put an end to Miller Time.

A true crowd-pleaser, Starks would be even more dangerous if he ever got his burning desire to win a bit more under control. But then he wouldn't be the *Shark* that Knicks fans have grown to love: Part street-fighter, part streak-shooter.

Derek Harper spent a lifetime in purgatory, aka the Dallas Mavericks, before the Knicks picked him up when Doc Rivers' knee exploded early in the season. Now, finally given his chance, the old pro saved his best game of the playoffs for Game 7, picking the Pacers' pockets as adroitly as the fellows working the pre-game crowd outside Seventh Ave.

Anthony Mason may be as subtle as a truck under the boards, but that's what he learned on the Queens play-grounds, a subway's ride away from the Garden.

Mason grew up rooting for the last Knicks' team to make the Finals. After spending years bouncing around CBA towns with names like Rapid City and Topeka, it's poetic justice that he's now earned his own spot on the Garden floor at playoff time.

No one who's seen him go into the fourth row of seats to save a loose ball can deny Charles Oakley's right to the Finals.

After years in Chicago, Oakley came to the Big Apple, only to stand in Ewing's, not Michael's, shadow. This year, Oakley got the recognition he deserves for being the kind of player who never goes home without skid marks on his knees and elbows.

And of course, there's Patrick Ewing, who strapped the Knicks to his back when it came to crunch time in Game 7 and said, "Gimme the ball."

Once again overlooked in the MVP voting (Shaquille O'Neal, he of the rap album but no foul shot, got more votes), Ewing has survived a love-hate relationship with the Gotham media and fans that would have destroyed other players.

The most credit, however, goes to Pat Riley, whose nerves should be sent to the Smithsonian after surviving the Knicks' inconsistent antics all season. Faced with his best point guard, Rivers, out for the season, his best shooter, Starks, out for several months, and saddled with the Gang That Couldn't Shoot Straight, he somehow got the Knicks into the Finals.

He built up players who lacked confidence, and tore down those who wouldn't do it His Way: defense, defense, and defense.

The Knicks are underdogs this time; maybe that will get some of their detractors to root for them. If not, hey, go ahead and cheer for Hakeem. The team some fans love to hate and Knicks fans everywhere know their boys have earned something all the top clubs yearn for: R-E-S-P-E-C-T.

Tigers rout Red Sox

DETROIT (AP) — Rookie Chris Gomez broke out of a 1-for-17 slump with three hits and four RBIs, and the Detroit Tigers used a 10-run fifth inning to rout the Boston Red Sox 14-5 Wednesday.

Bill Gullickson (4-4) allowed three runs and four hits over five innings, struck out two and walked one in his second straight victory.

Boston rookie Gar Finnwood, making his fifth career start, couldn't hold a three-run lead and remains in search of his first major-league win.

Finnwood (0-3) lasted 3 1/2 innings, allowing four runs on six hits. He walked three, struck out two and hit a batter.

Gomez went 3-for-5 with a pair of run-scoring singles and a two-run, ground-rule double to ignite Detroit's fifth.

Rangers 6, Yankees 5

Dean Palmer hit a two-run double and scored during a sixth-inning rally that gave host Texas its first 500 record of the year.

The Rangers (28-28) broke even with their fourth win in five games. They lost in their seven previous chances of reaching .500.

Darren Oliver relieved for Texas with the bases loaded and no outs in the ninth with a 6-4 lead. He got Gerald Williams to ground into a run-scoring double play on the first pitch, then retired Bob Melvin on a foul pop for his first major-league save.

Dan Smith (1-0), called up Monday night, earned his first major-league victory by pitching 1 1/2 scoreless innings.

White Sox 3, Blue Jays 2

Mike LaValliere singled home the winning run in the bottom of the ninth inning as host Chicago rallied.

With Chicago trailing 2-1, Julio Franco opened the inning with a single off reliever Darren Hall. Pinch-runner Joey Cora took third on a single by Robin Ventura and scored on Darren Jackson's single to tie the game.

Lance Johnson struck out before LaValliere singled up the middle, scoring Ventura with the winning run. Hall (1-2) allowed four hits in just a third of an inning.

Chicago reliever Dane Johnson (1-0) came in with two outs in the eighth, then retired the side in the ninth.

Orioles 6, Royals 4

Cal Ripken homered for the second straight game and later ignited a three-run seventh inning that carried Baltimore to victory.

Ripken hit his sixth homer in the third off former teammate Bob Milacki (0-1), giving the Orioles a 3-1 lead. After Mike Macfarlane's RBI triple helped give the Royals a 4-3 lead in the sixth, Baltimore regained the lead off three pitchers in the seventh.

Alan Mills (1-2) got his first victory since last September 21. Lee Smith worked the ninth for his major league-leading 23rd save.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Phillies 3, Cubs 0

David West pitched seven strong innings as visiting Chicago suffered its ninth straight loss.

West (2-5) allowed three hits, struck out five and walked two, and allowed only two runners to reach second base. It was his fourth start of the season after joining the rotation because of injuries to other starters.

Kevin Foster (0-1), traded by the Phillies to the Cubs for Shawn Boskie on April 12, gave up all three runs. He permitted three hits in five innings.

Braves 5, Padres 2

Terry Pendleton had three hits and three RBIs as Tom Glavine and the Braves won in Atlanta.

Glavine (7-5) allowed a run on six hits and struck out seven before leaving for a pinch hitter after seven innings.

Pendleton, who entered the game in a 15-for-120 slump, keyed a three-run first inning with an RBI single off Wally Whitehurst (4-7). Pendleton also had RBI doubles in the fifth and seventh innings.

Astros 9, Expos 2

Jeff Bagwell hit two home runs and pitcher Brian Williams went 2-for-4 and drove in the deciding runs as visiting Houston snapped Montreal's six-game winning streak.

Williams (3-2), a career .136 hitter before this season, broke a 2-2 tie in the sixth with a two-out, two-run single to left on an 0-2 pitch from Jeff Fassero (4-4).

Bagwell's home runs, a three-run shot in the seventh and a solo homer in the fourth, were his 14th and 15th of the season.

Marlins 5, Dodgers 4

Pinch-hitter Mario Diaz capped a three-run rally in the bottom of the ninth inning with a two-out single, giving host Florida the victory.

Only 2 matches left in local soccer season

DEREK PATZAL

THE sun is about to set on the 1993-94 soccer season, which began August 25 last year. Just two matches remain, the playoff games between Shimshon Tel Aviv and Hapoel Haifa, that will decide which of the teams will play in the National League next season.

The season provided a match which soccer-loving Israelis can look forward to relating to their grandchildren in years to come. An eventful 90 minutes at the Parc des Princes Paris ended in a last-minute victory against France, in a performance voted one of soccer's great shocks.

Although the triumph came too late to help Israel qualify for the World Cup, the match showed that the local game is on the way up, and should boost the international squad's chance of success in the coming European Nations Cup qualifiers. The first 45 minutes of the side's recent match against Argentina suggests more shocks may be on the way.

The league campaign was one of the longest and most exciting in recent years, with top honors going to champions Maccabi Haifa.

A stirring contest at Teddy Stadium on the opening weekend between then reigning champions Betar Jerusalem and Maccabi Haifa gave a hint of things to come as the Haifaite defeated Betar with two goals from new signing Alon Mizrahi.

Maccabi Tel Aviv swept into first place and broke a 40-year-old record they set in 1943, with a winning streak of 11 consecutive wins from the start of the season until Maccabi Haifa halted the run in Round 12. Meanwhile Betar faded from the title race.

The Tel Avivans monopolized top spot during the first half of the season. Maccabi Haifa continued in hot pursuit. The lead changed hands a number of times at the turn of the year but the big blow to Tel Aviv's hopes came at the end of February in round 25 when they were at the receiving end of a 5-0 blitz by the Haifaite.

Maccabi Haifa finally sealed the title race in round 37, and was crowned champions the following weekend before a delicious home crowd at Kiryat Eliezer.

There is no doubt which is the team of the season. The Haifaite completed the punishing 39-match league schedule unbeaten. Eyal Berkowitz was player of the year, with Alon Eliazar a close second. Reuben Azar had a fine season, and Alon Mizrahi was the league's top scorer with 28 goals.

The Haifaite also won the Toto Cup 3-0, beating Betar Jerusalem in a quality final.

Despite the club's domestic success, coach Giora Spiegel's proudest moments came in the European Cup Winners Cup. The team overcame a first leg deficit to beat Torpedo Moscow, then put on a magnificent performance against last year's winner Parma. The



MOMENT OF GLORY — Bonnie Ginsberg rejoices with teammate Eyal Berkowitz after Israel beat France 3-2.

Haifaite lost the first leg 1-0 in Haifa but went on to beat the crack Italian outfit 1-0 in the return match, only to end up losers in the deciding penalty shoot-out.

The "Green Wave" could be a victim of its own success as a number of top players could be the target of offers from Israel and abroad.

At one stage star captain Haim Revivo looked set to quit as well, but he rediscovered his flair in time to lead the team to a good cup run that ended in this week's State Cup final.

Maccabi Netanya

Manager Shmuel Perlman has finally moved on, ending a long era at the club, and Viko Hadad is set to take over.

Shalom Tikva returned to the side from his sojourn in Belgium with Standard Liege, but was dogged by injuries, while Ronen Shapira and Avishai Iano performed well in attack.

A number of young players were successfully blooded into the side and Eran Prizant in particular should continue to flourish next season.

Hapoel Petah Tikva

Three different coaches passed through the doors and the result was a mediocre season. Italian import Carmelo Mishish brightened an otherwise dull year together with Adoram Casey. Morri Kakkon finished the course as third-highest scorer.

Maccabi Petah Tikva

The side looked relegation-bound until Shiye Feigenbaum came and launched a revival through pure inspiration rather than tactical skill.

A fine streak in the State Cup came to an end in the semifinals when Hapoel Tel Aviv emerged victors after a tense penalty shoot-out.

Bnei Yehuda

Nikol! The tragic death of Ukrainian import Nikolai Kodrinsky in March showed the human face of Israeli soccer. Thousands of fans packed Tel Aviv's Hatikva Quarter to mourn the passing of a player fan and professional colleagues alike admired.

The Bnei Yehuda fans bestowed on him the accolade "son," indicating that, notwithstanding Kodrinsky's for-

sign and non-Jewish roots, he was one of the people.

Moved by the warmth and support he received, the late-star's widow expressed a wish to take Israeli citizenship, so she could continue to raise the couple's three-year-old daughter here.

Hapoel Holon

Holon proved a difficult side to beat at times, offering strong resistance to some of the top teams who had difficulty breaking down its defenses. Nevertheless lack of consistency away from home resulted in a poor position in the final standings.

Yisrael Mayer and Itzik Suissa both provided cheer for the supporters.

Maccabi Herzliya

Promoted last year, the Herzliyans will be pleased that they maintained a mid-table position all season, although form tailed off towards the end of the term.

Ironi Ashdod

After a bright start, Ashdod plummeted down the table, and spent the final three months trying to keep its tail clear of the two potential relegation spots.

Hapoel Haifa

The side was an almost permanent fixture at the bottom of the table for much of the campaign.

Hapoel produced a miracle in the last two rounds of the regular season to avoid automatic relegation to the Second Division. The team now has to fight for survival in a two-legged playoff against Shimshon Tel Aviv.

If the team pulls through, there are signs that businessman Robby Shapira intends to transform the side. Rumors abound that Reuben Azar may join and the club's favorite son Tal Benin could return from Cannes in an attempt to restore the side to glory.

Hapoel Kfar Sava

The Kfar Sava team took the last train to the Second Division in round 39. Capable of playing some fine soccer at times — which on occasion stymied even the league's top guns — their naivety in defense proved costly. The team's fight to return will be made much harder if it is unable to keep hold of players such as super forward Morri Yeverbaum.

World Cup

not the only game in town

NEW YORK (AP) — Some 200,000 fans are pouring into New York for the World Cup. However, it's not the only game in town.

First on the minds of many New York sports fans is the NBA Finals, with the New York Knicks facing the Houston Rockets in best-of-seven series that could last until June 22.

New Yorkers are hoping to celebrate a hoped for second major sports title, with the New York Rangers on the verge of their first Stanley Cup title in 54 years. No city has ever won both the NBA and NHL titles in the same year.

On June 18 athletes light a torch and hoist a rainbow flag to open the Gay Games, an event styled after the Olympics. It features 11,000 athletes from 43 countries.

The games, which first opened in 1982 in San Francisco, have 31 sporting events, including swimming, ice hockey, same-sex pairs figure skating, water polo, tennis and badminton. The games also include a body-building contest in Madison Square Garden.

Gay Games organizers expect hundreds of thousands at the weeklong competition, which culminates in a civil rights march through the city.

To greet the hundreds of thousands of summer visitors, the city is showcasing some of its greatest attractions.

Restaurant Week opens June 13, with more than 100 of New York City's top restaurants offering full meals for \$19.95, less than half of what they usually charge. Mel Torme helps kick off a week-long Jazz festival on June 24 featuring music greats including Ray Charles and Gilberto Gil. Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall and Avery Fisher Hall host concerts and there will be six free performances in city parks.

The first World Cup game in the area is on June 18 when Ireland plays Italy. Games will be played at Giants Stadium in East Rutherford. The stadium is 7 miles across the Hudson River, a short bus ride from downtown Manhattan.

The stadium hosts seven of the tournament's 52 matches. Norway, Saudi Arabia, Morocco also play first-round matches at the stadium, home to the New York Giants.

For fans who don't have tickets, New York's immigrant communities are hosting some of the best parties in town.

Banners decorated with small Italian and American flags hang across the streets of Manhattan's Little Italy and cafes lining the streets plan to broadcast the games live.

Policemen in Gaza step into civilian shoes

Palestinian Police must deal with extralegal issues because there is no functioning civilian authority, Jon Immanuel reports

GETTING a call through to Palestinian police headquarters in Gaza City is so difficult that many Gazans believe the telephone is for one-way communication only.

They may be right. In the absence of a functioning Palestinian civilian authority, the police have been issuing a lot of orders and dispensing a great deal of advice during the past month of self-rule.

Some of the orders and advice bore no relationship to standard police work.

The source of the orders is Maj. Gen. Nasser Yusef, ensconced in what a month ago was IDF military headquarters in Gaza and is now popularly known as Al-Saraya (The Palace).

After a brief honeymoon — which began when Yusef said on May 18, "Hamas serves the people. There are no problems between us" — he has wasted no time imposing his authority, especially over Hamas.

Two weeks ago, Hamas' armed wing Izzadin Kassam murdered two "collaborators." Hamas leaders anonymously issued a statement saying they would allow the police to deal with the problem of collaborators "for the time being." Yusef's reaction to this gesture was as scathing as it was unexpected.

It wasn't the alleged "collaborator" victims but Hamas which was the problem, Yusef wrote in an unambiguous statement. He blamed Hamas leaders for failing to stop the "killers" and "gangs" in the first place. He rejected their use of the word "collaborators" and said the murders were a "continuation of a phenomenon which our people have suffered for too long."

Hamas was stung. It had signed an agreement with Fatah on April 22 that Izzadin Kassam would stop killing "collaborators" until May 22. Kassam honored the agreement to the letter. The two strangled men tied to a post near the Seven-Up factory in Zeitoun were murdered five days after the deadline ended.

In Gazan terms, that was a successful agreement, but times had changed. On April 22 there was no Palestinian police in Gaza, and what passed for law and order then was basically a series of understandings among political factions about dividing authority.

Yusef said no deal. "Those who attack our people are attacking our rights as a national authority."

He demanded that Hamas surrender the killers and said at a public meeting in Gaza's Shawa cultural center a day later, "I am ready to marry 100 police officers" to catch the killers.

Hamas vowed not to surrender men or guns and upped the rhetoric, referring to Yusef by his discarded original name, Mustafa Bushitawi, and calling



Gaza's policemen do more than just direct traffic in Rafah. The Palestinian Police recently established a 'Moral Guardian' department designed 'to hunt down pervers,' a frequent Hamas target. (Reuters)

him a "protector of collaborators." Then the rhetoric stopped, as have the killings.

His tough statements, which were even stronger than PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's attacks on Hamas two years ago, have boosted Yusef's reputation as a law enforcer and a man with a shrewd political sense.

The day before the two murders, during a sermon in Gaza City's Palestine Mosque, Hamas leader Sheikh Wajih Yazji called for the establishment of an Islamic morality police.

Gaza's police officers have since established a department called Shoorta al Muhatezeh al Khoolook, the "Moral Guardian Police" unit. Lt. Col. Hamdi Rifi, overall commander of the police department, said it was designed "to hunt down pervers," a favorite Hamas target.

The main focus of the unit falls within standard police work — rapists, drunken behavior and drug dealers — as opposed to going after adulterers, immodestly dressed women and whisky drinkers, who are considered offenders of religious law.

A FEW days after the spate of mutually hostile statements, Khan Yunis police announced that imams should no longer make political statements in mosques. Though this order was quickly rescinded, it raised the question of whether religious leaders have less right to make political statements than police officers have to tell imams what they may not say.

This week, Yusef went to the office of Mansour Shawa, Arafat's appointed mayor-designate of Gaza, and told him to stop trying to satisfy political factions and to appoint a municipal council of independent technocrats.

Shawa responded that Yusef's intervention only delayed matters. "Fatah is a hindrance to the smooth functioning of government."

Shawa had gotten Hamas to agree to join a caretaker council on condition that its members plan for elections. What Yusef's intervention meant, Shawa said, was that Shawa should keep Hamas out of the council.

In Jericho, Yusef appointed a security aide to the mayor, Lt.-Col. Moonther Rashid, whose job includes restructuring municipal spending. This caused people to ask whether the choice should not properly have been left to Saeb Erekat, an appointee to the 24-member Palestinian Authority (PA) who is in charge of local government.

Police spokesman Mohammed Shahr yesterday denied that Rashid is making decisions for the mayor. "He is there to help the mayor enforce the regulation, to facilitate."

Yusef offered solutions to Gaza's economic problems in an article in the eastern Jerusalem daily *Al-Quds*. They did not differ from the kinds of solutions suggested by Palestinian economists — so why, many asked, was the chief of police getting involved in the economy?

Riad Al-Malki, spokesman for the

opposition Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, says, "I believe Arafat is trying to establish two parallel authorities, like the Israeli military administration, which really controlled the Civil Administration."

According to Malki, "Arafat has the extreme loyalty of his appointed police, but the civilian appointees have their own ambitions, plans, connections."

Hanan Ashrawi's Independent Commission for Human Rights considers "demilitarization of the civil authorities" its main task, said the commission's secretary, Eyad Sarraj.

Today the security forces are the largest functioning bureaucracy, with up to 9,000 men. Yusef heads all four sections: national security, intelligence, civil defense and regular police. These are divided into Gaza and Jericho departments.

More than half of the \$10 million sent by donors since May 18 has gone to the police in Gaza and Jericho, mainly to pay salaries.

Despite initial reports of police officers begging for food, salaries were paid in the past week to nearly 3,000 Gaza policemen, starting at \$450 to an unmarried private, with an extra \$25 per child.

Osama Khudari, a newly recruited policeman from Sheikh Radwan with two children, took home \$550 — which he said was more than he could have earned in Israel, taking into account transportation costs and traveling time.

Congressmen say yea to aid for Israel despite voters' nay

The peace process and November's US congressional elections have boosted House support for financial assistance to Jerusalem, Hillel Kuttler writes

THE US electorate is against providing foreign aid when there are many pressing problems at home. But the House of Representatives has not been swayed and that is significant for Israel and its supporters in Washington.

The American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) lobbying group was "cognizant of an anti-foreign-aid mood that was prevalent in the last election" and knew it could not "take for granted foreign aid votes anymore," said organization spokesman Toby Dershowitz.

In one-on-one meetings with his Long Island, New York, constituents, Representative Rick Lazio said he has come across many who "have criticized foreign aid, particularly aid to Israel."

Among his colleagues, however, he senses "a general awareness that as Israel takes calculated risks to advance the peace process, America has an indispensable role in preserving Israel's security."

Support for the peace process, foreign policy considerations and concerted pro-Israel lobbying are among the factors which helped the 1995 foreign assistance bill pass by a wide margin, congressmen say.

A breakdown of the record 337-87 vote late last month reveals that 100 of the 116 freshmen approved the measure.

Israel's supporters see that as significant because of the 1992 election campaign's steady drumbeat for refocusing on needs at home. And, no less significant, this is an election year, when voters and opposing candidates are likely to raise the issue anew.

The bill's passage has, at least for now, officially spared Israel's annual \$3 billion American aid package proposed by the Clinton Administration. Egypt and Russia were the next highest beneficiaries of US assistance.

The Senate could take up the bill as soon as next month.

This year's bill showed gains across the board compared to the first session of the 103rd Congress in 1993. According to AIPAC, Democratic and Republican votes increased from 202 to 225 and from 107 to 112, respectively.

All 36 members of the congressional black caucus who voted approved the bill, along with 14 of the 15 members of the Hispanic caucus.

The overall vote for this year's \$13.6 billion total foreign assistance appropriation exceeded even last year's 309-111 tally.

Before last year's vote, "there was a substantial amount of opposition in an informal discussion shortly after I arrived," according to Lincoln Diaz-Balart, a freshman congressman from Miami, who has voted for the bill in each of his two years in Capitol Hill.

But as the newcomers "have an opportunity to study this issue," said Diaz-Balart, a Cuban-American, "they realize it's in the interest of the US to support friends and allies around the world."

Just 70 of the 116 congressmen the freshmen replaced supported the last Bush foreign assistance package.

"I think in some strange way, foreign aid was stronger this year because of the peace process," said Peter Deutsch, a Jewish representative from southern Florida who was one of the 116 newcomers elected in 1992. Less than 20% of those in Deutsch's district are Jewish, he said.

"Peace in the Middle East is good for the United States of America, no matter what you feel about the process. Anything nega-

tive for the process is bad for America. That is really ... a convincing argument. If you cut aid to Israel, what does that tell the Israelis?"

"I'm in a part of the country very sensitive to international affairs. In most parts of the country, it would be more difficult. This is an international community," he acknowledged.

Lazio, a Republican whose district is no more than 5% Jewish, joined Deutsch, a Democrat, and several other freshmen congressmen in recruiting votes for the bill; the procedure is known as "whipping." The strong freshman vote was "better than I expected, frankly, [because] there continues to be sentiment among voters to cut foreign aid," he said.

First-term Georgia congressman John Linder said that even though constituents challenge him on sending money overseas, "I think the issue is important enough to get up and stand up on."

"I never bought the idea we were moving into isolationism," he said. "Sooner or later, you have to get past the parochialism of your district and into the world beyond."

Congressmen also give credit for the surprisingly high freshman support to AIPAC's aggressive lobbying initiative even before the 1992 elections.

The organization, at the grass roots level, met with the major candidates for seats, including those in districts newly created in the aftermath of the 1990 national census.

Because of the "trying environment" pushing against foreign assistance, said AIPAC's Dershowitz, the organization is "enormously gratified that relationships that have been built with freshman and veteran officials have been helpful at turning out such strong support for the foreign aid bill."

Veteran congressmen passed along AIPAC's message to newcomers.

"We have taken great pains to educate members, especially new members, [and] to take them to Israel," said Bill Paxton, a third-term Representative from Jack Kemp's old district in Buffalo, New York. Paxton last summer led a delegation of 16 fellow Republicans to Israel and estimates that "60% to 70%" of Republican freshmen have visited.

As to the prospects for future support in the House of Representatives, "proponents of foreign aid, to be successful, have to keep a low profile," said third-term Arizona congressman Jon Kyl, a leading supporter of the Arrow project who provided a big push behind the foreign aid vote.

"The general perception is that as long as the program is kept at a reasonable level, it will be okay for now," said Kyl, who is running for the Senate this fall. "But if we do get a balanced budget amendment, it will take a bit like everything else."

Until then, support is likely to remain high, if for no other reason than because pragmatic politics rules. The office holders of today are also the candidates of today, and the entire House is up for election in November.

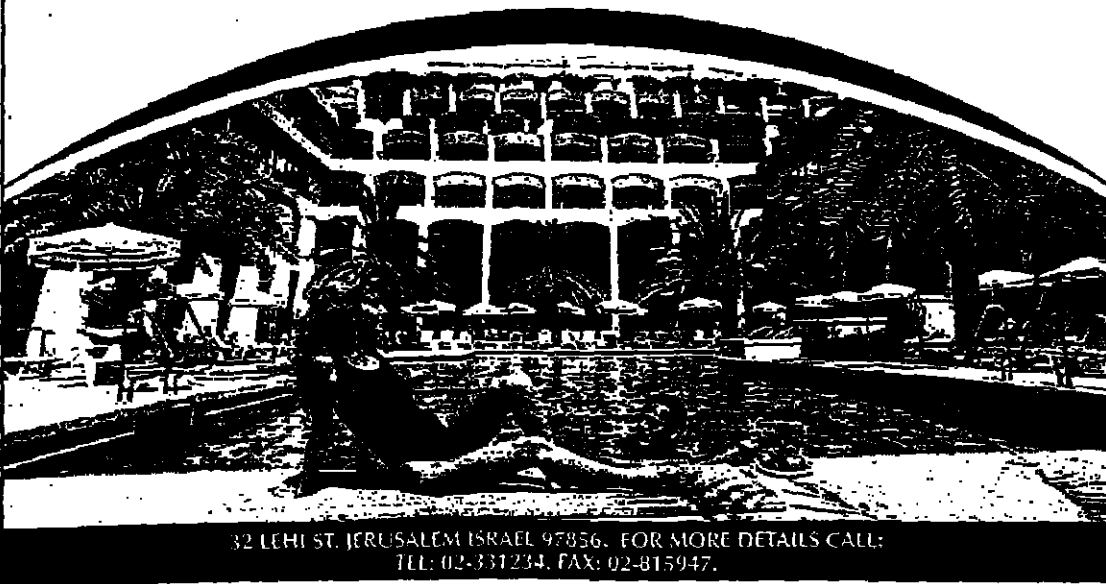
"I think with Jewish support, they see foreign aid as a must for them," said Chuck Brooks, executive director of NatPAC, a political action committee that is the largest contributor of funds to pro-Israel candidates for Congress.

"The community has been so supportive of people who are good with foreign aid in general, and with Israel," he said. "That's a key consideration right now, with money needing to be raised."

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Fashion favorite of the rich and famous

For more than half a century, Lola Beer has been dressing the country's most prestigious women, Greer Fay Cashman writes

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin is not known for having a particular interest in haute couture. But he took time out from politics this week to attend a retrospective exhibition of the work of Lola Beer — "the crown of my professional career" as Beer described it — at the Israel Museum.

Conceding a passing interest in fashion, the prime minister added that it was not his custom to frequent fashion shows, except those on behalf of causes espoused by his wife.

Walking through the exhibit — a corridor flanked by two enormous showcases — Rabin remarked: "This is the first time that I've taken a route like this. There are more dangerous paths...."

Beer, who for more than half a century has been dressing the country's most prestigious and affluent women, including Vera Weizmann, Paula Ben-Gurion, Golda Meir and now Lea Rabin, is hardly your ordinary seamstress. With the exception of the late Finny Leitersdorf, no other designer can be credited as having made so great an impact on fashion here.

Both Leitersdorf and Beer came from similar backgrounds. The Hungarian-born Leitersdorf spent seven years in Czechoslovakia before immigrating to Palestine and setting up her first studio in Tel Aviv in 1940.

Czech-born Beer graduated cum laude from the Prague College of Design before she too settled in Tel Aviv in 1940, holding her first fashion show in 1941.

There, the similarities end. Though both women had flair, their styles were different. Leitersdorf liked to borrow from ethnic Mediterranean themes, and Beer has always been a classicist, believing implicitly in the timelessness of clean-cut, classic tailoring.

Yet the influence of both has been pervasive and enduring. Asked to explain this, Beer responded: "It had something to do with our European upbringing."

Pondering over the question of whether her fashion sense was innate or had been nurtured by her mother, whom she last saw when she fled Czechoslovakia at 22, Beer was undecided: "I think I was born with it; but maybe I inherited it from her."

Few people wear Beer's clothes better than Beer herself. With her straight-backed aristocratic bearing and her long, slim legs, Beer is a walking advertisement for the chic European suit which has been the hallmark of her enterprise.

Also frequently seen in Lola Beer garments is her close friend and longtime client, World WIZO President Raya Jaglom.

It is characteristic of Beer to develop noncommercial relation-

ships with her clients. Lea Rabin recalled that nearly 30 years ago, when her husband was chief of general staff, she received an invitation to meet Beer. "It had already become a tradition for her to dress the women who represented the state. It was a role which she took upon herself. Meanwhile, we also became close friends."

In 1968, when Rabin was appointed ambassador to the US, Beer created a straight-falling, sleeveless brocade evening dress with silver and gold thread and matching bolero which Lea Rabin took to Washington and wore to a festive dinner at the White House. The dress, which is included in the retrospective exhibition, has since been donated to the Benet and Pauline Rose Study Center at Shenkar College for Textile Technology and Design. In 1992 it was displayed at Beit Hanassi, after then-first lady Aura Herzog, yet another veteran client who became a close friend, initiated the Golden Needle award. Beer was the first recipient, sharing the honor with Gottex founder Leah Gottlieb.

A loyal Beer client since the early 1950s, Herzog said of her: "She is so classical that there was never the problem of looking over our shoulders to make sure that we weren't overdressed. She made us respectable and esthetically beautiful. I believe in her."

So does socialite Esther Rubin, widow of renowned painter Reuven Rubin. "I've been wearing her clothes for 45 years," she declared. Asked to pinpoint that special something which has put Beer in a class of her own, Rubin said: "It's her exactitude, her perfection."

A similar sentiment was voiced



Lola Beer's design for IDF women's uniforms, circa 1966 (left); Beer, who believes in the timelessness of clean-cut, classic tailoring, is shown here modeling one of her hallmark suits.

by fashion designer Jacqueline Gal, who enthused: "She executes her creations to perfection. It's not just the outside but the inside — and the inside of the inside."

"She did great things, I'm all for her," said fellow designer Jerry Melitz.

"When this country was still in its pioneering stages, she brought

a bit of class that grew and grew."

Visiting Italian designer Graziella Fontana described Beer as "one of the great couturiers," adding, "she has a style that no one else has in this country. If I was going to buy a dress here, I would buy it from her."

Only the well-to-do can afford to buy a garment with a Lola Beer

label. But it wasn't always so. Beer was so keen to imbue the spirit of elegance in all Israeli women, that in 1967-68, she produced five seasonal collections for the now defunct Ata textile works, which high quality goods for significantly lower prices.

Beer also left her imprint on El Al, the IDF and the Postal Ser-

vice. She has designed uniforms for all three.

But her contribution goes way beyond the quest for elegance. She and her late husband, Dolfi Ebner, were generous donors to numerous scientific, cultural and social welfare causes. In 1985 they established a scholarship fund to promote science, the arts and fashion. Scholarships from the fund are awarded to students from the Weizmann Institute, Tel Aviv University and Shenkar College.

In the 1960s and '70s, she employed a team of 45 at her Hayarkon Street atelier (there are now only 12 seamstresses and a tailor). Beer begins work at 7 each morning, commuting to Tel Aviv from her home in Caesarea. She often works until late afternoon, personally overseeing each and every aspect of production. To meet her exacting standards, each garment must be sculpted to properly fit the body, "and since the two sides of the body are seldom the same" Beer pays meticulous attention to the differences to ensure that the garment hangs precisely the way it should.

Yet despite her unflinching success, she is giving serious consideration to closing shop.

Without her husband's encouragement, the incentive to continue has waned. The exhibition is a tribute to the couple's life achievements. Beer doesn't keep past collections, so she had to badger clients to let her have some of their clothes for the exhibition. "I took what I could find — the older the better, because it reflected more of my life's work."

To those who expressed disappointment at her impending retirement, Beer said philosophically, "One has to resign when one is still at the top."

Conquering air fear: Potential passengers confront planes

Would-be travelers who are afraid of flying can get help in overcoming their fears, Carl Schrag reports

UNTIL four years ago, Rachel had never traveled beyond this country's borders.

The thought of boarding an airplane paralyzed her. When her children traveled, she contained her envy. But when they settled in New York, she was in a bind.

How could she not visit them? But how could she get there?

About five years ago, she pleaded with a friend — an El Al flight attendant who did not share her fear of flying — to help her.

"I had a feeling that the only thing that would help me get over my fear was to be on an airplane on the ground," says Rachel, who

did not want her last name published. "I asked my friend if she could arrange such a visit for me. I wanted to fly, but I was too scared to imagine it."

The friend asked El Al for permission but was told that the airline would not let her board a plane without a ticket — and that once she was in the plane, she would have to fly.

"I put off flying for a long time because of that," Rachel says.

El Al spokesman Nachman Kleiman says fearful fliers should get a different sort of reception. He personally handles requests for assistance — Rachel says her friend apparently didn't turn to

him — and organizes visits to Ben-Gurion Airport for anyone who feels the need. He escorts the would-be travelers through the airport and includes a look inside a cockpit.

"There has not been a great demand for this," Kleiman says. "In the past three years, I remember two requests. The last one came from an 'Anglo-Saxon' mother and son. Both were frequent fliers who experienced great fear every time they had to fly."

"We brought them to the airport, explained the systems and backup systems, and answered any questions they had."

The other request came from a Haifa couple who wanted to fly to America to visit their children. "They wanted to see the plane beforehand," Kleiman says.

He arranged a tour of the airport, including boarding a plane, and explained safety precautions, which convinced them that it is safe to fly.

Kleiman says many foreign airlines offer courses to help people

overcome their fear of flying. A recent story in a British newspaper says that airlines charge for the courses, but the primary motivation is to enlarge the pool of potential passengers.

If there was a demand, Kleiman says, El Al would offer such courses. "But Israelis are veteran travelers. It's such a small country, and so many people fly. There just hasn't been much demand."

DR. REUVEN DAR, a lecturer in Tel Aviv University's psychology department who specializes in anxiety disorders, disputes that.

He worked on a research project several years ago in which eight people who were afraid to fly boarded airplanes in an effort to overcome their fear. Today, he says, all eight continue to fly.

He isn't surprised that El Al believes the problem isn't serious. "We asked both El Al and Arkia to help fund our study," he says. "They declined. They cannot be aware of how many passengers they lose due to fear of flying."

Dar doesn't venture a guess as to how many people here suffer from the condition, although he says it's certain to appear among agoraphobics and claustrophobics. "For them, getting on an airplane is probably the worst thing they can imagine."

The best approach, Dar says, is hands-on encounters with the feared flying machine.

He takes clients to Sde Dov Airport in Tel Aviv, shows them around, accompanies them as they board a small plane and instructs them to sit in the cabin.

On the first visit, the plane usually remains stationary. The second trip to the airport might include a ride along the runway. When the individual or group seems ready, the course ends with a half-hour flight.

Dar stresses that the course of treatment isn't over until the person takes a commercial flight. Most opt for El Al.

He says it's okay if they feel anxiety during the flight; that's normal. The fact that they manage

to board a commercial aircraft and remain composed through take-off, flight and landing means they've conquered their fear.

That was Rachel's experience. About a year after her friend at El Al dashed her hopes of seeing an airplane up close without leaving the ground, she joined Dar's research project.

The first time the group boarded a small Piper plane at Sde Dov, she was trembling.

"I was afraid of not being in control," she says. "I felt that I was so small, and the sky around me was so big."

Upon completing the course, Rachel and one of her classmates, flew together to Eilat. "I felt much more confident," she says. "I almost didn't even feel fear."

During the four years since then, she has flown on many commercial flights and will be joining the summer exodus for vacations in a few weeks. She sounds proud when she says, "I've even come to enjoy takeoff and landing."

Dar, who is organizing a new

course to begin this summer, is convinced that the experience of seeing and being in an airplane in a supportive atmosphere is the secret to overcoming fear of flying.

"People see others in the group have the same problem, and all want to show the others they're doing well," he says.

In one of the study groups he ran, Dar says, he watched one man tremble and sweat during takeoff. A few minutes into the flight, he began to relax.

"By the time we landed, he was euphoric. He ran directly to the terminal and bought a ticket on the next flight to Eilat. He flew there and back the same day. It was a real breakthrough."

Dar says some fearful fliers don't even need his course. While registering a woman for the summer course last month, he talked to her about fear of flying and anxiety attacks. Immediately after the conversation, the woman took her daughter and flew to Eilat.

"The next day she called to tell me she didn't need the course."

Lightning jolt gives travelers fear of landing

Airliners can withstand lightning, but passengers on a flight from London were not as resilient. Suzanne Glass spoke with two

SOMETHING odd was going on. On April 7 at 11 p.m. the staff in the reservations office at Ben-Gurion Airport were getting a little uneasy. Ambulances and police cars were racing past the window.

Unbeknown to them, El Al flight 316 from London had been struck by lightning. All other incoming aircraft had been diverted. There was a chance of an emergency landing.

Lightning strikes the earth once every two minutes. A recent study by the Federal Aviation Association reveals that the average commercial aircraft is likely to be struck once a year. A frightening statistic, but planes are built to bear the shock.

For the passengers it is a terrifying experience. Robert Shipton, a hairdresser from London, and Michael Taub, a leather-goods manufacturer from Glasgow, were on the El Al flight. For six weeks they couldn't bring themselves to talk about it. Only now do they feel capable of recounting their experiences.

"Flying is a doddle for me," says Shipton. "It's my wife who gets tense in the air. Before we boarded the flight to Tel Aviv she said, 'I think I'll take some of that homeopathic stuff. It calms me down.' Little did she know."

"I was sitting next to my friend. We were separated from my wife and my aunt by the aisle."

"The weather in London was lousy. The heavens had opened, but I didn't think anything of it. The captain said, 'Welcome to El Al 316. ... We wish you a pleasant flight.' The explosion came about five minutes later. A gigantic flash of light engulfed us. The plane shook so violently, I swear I thought we'd been hit by a missile. To my right a stewardess crouched down in the aisle with her hands above her head. My stomach was in my feet. There was this 'Oh my God, what's going on?' sort of atmosphere. People were starting to whimper."

Taub was at the back of the plane. Paranoid about flying at the best of times, he says, "Well, I just thought that was it. I reached straight for the whiskey."

The pilot's voice broke the panic. He told his 350 passengers that the plane had been struck by lightning but that everything was fine. Shipton felt reassured.

"My tension disappeared in a split second," he says. "I mean, they say lightning never strikes twice, don't they?"

Just over four hours later we came in to land at Ben-Gurion Airport on schedule. We were close enough to see the lights of the airport on the ground. We were waiting for the bump of the touchdown. But suddenly we zoomed up again at top speed. I thought, "Something is very, very wrong."

Shipton was right. The bolt of lightning had blown the light which told the pilot if the landing gear was working; he had no idea

if the wheels were down.

"He was still incredibly calm when he said we were going to fly over the control tower so they could tell us if our landing gear was actually in place," Shipton says. "And there was still no trace of emotion when he announced that the control tower couldn't quite work things out. But minutes later something had changed. I could hear his voice shaking."

When the pilot announced that a fighter plane had taken off to see if the wheels were in place, but no one could be sure if they were locked and would stay that way. Taub turned in desperation to the man sitting next to him. "It was tragic and funny at the same time. When I got on the plane, I realized that I was next to someone with whom I'd had a big fight in business. By the end of the flight we were holding hands."

"When the pilot announced, 'Ladies and gentlemen we are going to have to prepare you for an emergency landing,' the atmosphere was one of shock," says Shipton.

"There was silence. Total deafening silence. For the entire half hour while we flew over the sea dumping fuel to stop us from blowing up when we landed, I didn't hear a single word," he continues. "It was excruciating. I scrutinized the stewardess closest to me. She had tears in her eyes. Another one was taking long deep breaths. That was when I started to think a million things at once."

"I thought, 'Thank God we're not with the kids.' I thought, 'I

hope someone will take care of them.' And I even thought, 'Oh well my business partners will get all the insurance money.' I pushed the words 'dead' and 'mained' away."

"Every crash landing I'd ever seen on a movie screen flashed through my mind. But you don't really believe it until the stewardess says, 'Please place your seat cushions in front of you. Lean forward. Place your hands under your knees. Make sure the aisles are clear and remove your shoes.' It was the bit about the shoes that really freaked me out."

Taub says by this time he was seriously incensed. "They pointed out our nearest emergency exits. They told us to jump on to the chutes as soon as we landed. I'm not sure if it all happened in slow motion because I was drunk or because I was paralyzed with fear."

Shipton was still painfully aware of what was going on. He even found himself in a moral dilemma.

"The man in front of me was old and fat. How was he going to jump on to the chute? Should I help him before I help myself? I dared to lift my head from the crash-landing position and look at my wife. She was looking at me and she mouthed, 'Are you OK?'"

"I felt the stewardess put a hand on my shoulder. The pilot said, 'Cabin crew to emergency landing positions.'"

"I almost stopped breathing. Seconds later we landed like a butterfly on a leaf."

"It was only then that two children started to scream high-pitched piercing screams. It was then that I saw literally hundreds of red flashing lights chasing alongside the plane. It must have been a whole minute till people started cheering and clapping and crying. It wasn't till that night in bed that I started thinking. I thought the emotion would come out the next day or the day after that. I waited and waited. But it didn't. I was just very glad to be in one piece. Basically I'm a fatalist. I think, when your number's up your number's up."

"It was different for my aunt. Someone asked her what it was like and she burst into tears. As for my wife, well she wanted to return home by ship. But who's got that much time to waste?"

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Our children aren't educated to care, but to achieve

CAPITAL TALK

TEDDY KOLLEK with Amos Kollek

ISRAEL has undergone many changes since its establishment 46 years ago. Most of them have been for the better.

The country has developed tremendously, probably more rapidly than any other country in modern history. Entire cities have been built, with factories, banks, concert halls, museums and theaters.

Alongside agricultural development, modern high-tech industries have been created. Highways have been constructed.

All this, in spite of seven gruesome wars, terrorism and continuous tension with all our neighbors. We have every reason to be proud and optimistic, despite the daily hardships and conflicts.

But not everything has changed for the better. While today the peace process rightfully takes priority, we must not lose sight of other issues which, in the long run, will be just as crucial, perhaps more so.

From its inception, Israel has been a country of values and moral backbone. But much of the ear-

ly idealism and pioneer spirit has been lost.

This is understandable, since the people who established the country were motivated by unique historical circumstances, some tragic, like World War II and the Holocaust. They were also deeply influenced by socialism, which started with the second aliya, early in the century. One of its outcomes was an original Israeli creation: the kibbutz movement.

But Israel has changed drastically over the last couple of decades, as has the whole world. Materialism, rather than idealism, has set in.

History has ideological periods and passing fads, trends that go in and out of fashion. Today, for instance, a lot of Israelis are returning to religion.

With all my respect for religious belief, I am not sure that this trend will last. But materialism is here to stay, unless we do something about it. And we must — because Israel's very existence will depend on collective responsibility over private gain.

For a while after the creation of the state, there was a trend of public service, of volunteerism. Today, it's all personal advancement, mostly through making money.

I don't for a moment wish to minimize the importance of the urge to produce and create, as expressed in industry and in business. The motivation to work and the knowledge that one will reap the benefits of that work is healthy, as well as necessary.

BUT IT has reached the point where few people want to devote themselves to public service. This reluctance has probably been intensified worldwide by the overwhelming evolution of the media and the kind of reporting that digs into people's private lives, exposing them daily to millions of viewers and readers.

Not everyone is willing to sub-

ject himself and his family to this ordeal. The business world is a lot more private than either politics or government service.

There has also been a rise in political adventurism, again aided by the news media. Politicians often choose to make headlines, preferring to make a splash and stand in the polls, rather than work for quieter, more substance-oriented goals.

I have been witness to a small but significant example of this in Jerusalem, where money and energy that could have built whole new Jewish districts in our part of the city are being used to buy a few Arab houses for Jewish settlers in Moslem areas. The slogan that Jews have a right to settle everywhere in the land carried the day. It made a good front-page item.

Yet the gigantic growth in the

role of the media cannot account fully for our shift in values.

Today, people seem to be judged mostly by the size of their homes, the cost of their cars, and how much they make a year, rather than by their contribution to society. Newspapers often run stories on people who earn millions of shekels a year; at the same time, there are cries of poverty.

Something must be wrong when hundreds of thousands of Israelis vacation abroad every year, while others go hungry. We are still fortunate not to have thousands of homeless people living in our streets, as in many Western cities. But no one mentions this with any pride. Pride is reserved for more "fashionable" accomplishments. Our children aren't educated to care as much as they are educated to achieve.

I believe this can be changed through government policy and

education. The right kind of effort can get through to the public.

One small example: There was a time, not too long ago, when many species of flowers had become almost extinct. But the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel taught people not to pick flowers in public places. Today, no one touches the flowers — not for fear of the law, but because of an acquired, inner feeling that it is wrong.

The same educational effort could be invested in volunteerism. Today, there's no pride in it, because society doesn't value it. It doesn't make you important. Let's change that.

This trend isn't only characteristic of Israel. In England, until not too long ago, it was a high distinction to be in the Foreign Office or the army. Today, less so. The best brains go into business. I believe that the extremes we have reached pose a great danger to our society.

How can this be changed? How can we motivate people to idealism — not just for a generation or

two, but for the long term?

One cannot put restrictions on free enterprise and on how much money people can make. But one could, for example, at the very least, double the wages of teachers and nurses. Then, maybe, once these professions provide more money and prestige, some of the people now going into business will opt for them instead.

Recognition is another great motivator. Fields like science and the arts have always had special appeal. They attract people partly because they help them become famous. Rockefeller, Trump and Howard Hughes are also names people remember. But who knows the names of distinguished educators?

It is up to us to become inventive, to think ahead for the sake of the generations to come. It is up to us to make sure that Israel preserves more than just its economic and military strength.

We don't have to find all the solutions right away. We can't expect to. But let's at least make the effort to go after them.

A tale of 'grandma tales'

VIEW FROM NOV

MOSHE KOHN

OUR Kugellager prime minister continues to show himself a master of contumely — less, of course, in facing our enemies and more vis-à-vis his constituents and our presumed allies and friends.

On May 30, Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak said Rabin had told him that Israel was prepared to withdraw totally and absolutely from the Golan Heights.

Rabin said the next day: "It's very unpleasant for me to say this about President Mubarak, but *lo dubim velo zevuvim* (no bears and no flies). I didn't tell the Syrians that we're ready to give up the entire Golan, so I didn't tell the Egyptians either."

As I noted last week, Rabin has lately been spouting one after another of those caustic multilingual sabra colloquialisms (Hebrew, Arabic, Yiddish, German) from the glossary he acquired in his formative years in Tel Aviv's Beit Hinnuch Labor-trend elementary school, the Kadourie Agricultural School at Kfar Tabor, and the Palmah.

The *dubim/zevuvim* one is new to me, perhaps Rabin's own coinage.

Last week I mentioned an old Hebrew dismissal of tall stories: "*Lo dubim velo yaa*" (No bears and no forest). This is a variant of a Yiddish comment on the biblical tale about some bears emerging from a forest and Prophet Eliaha sickening them on a group of disrespectful children. The original comment states: "There was no forest, there were no bears" (II Kings 2:23-24; *Sota 47a*).

Dubim/zevuvim sort of rhymes, and is therefore cuter than *dubim yaa*. Furthermore, it doesn't require knowledge of the Jewish classics, and perhaps Rabin considered it decided not to burden Mubarak with biblical/Yiddish allusions. He may even himself not have been aware of the ancient Jewish roots of his utterance, a lacuna he has more than once displayed.

But I wonder if Mubarak is one of those Arabs, of whom I have met many in the Jerusalem area since 1967, who grew up among Yiddish-speaking Jews and in their youth even frequented Jewish homes as a *Shabbos* boy, to turn on and extinguish the electricity on Shabbat and other holy days. If he is, he might have understood that Yiddish rebuttal of Baron Munchausen tales that I mentioned last week, "*Nishi gesh-toigen oon nish gefloigen*" (Neither took off nor flew) — i.e., that

the eagle never took off and soared away carrying him in its talons.

Perhaps the best known of the Jewish tall-tale-busting retorts is "*Bobbe meiseh*" — "*Bobbe*" is Yiddish for grandma and "*meiseh*" is Yiddishized Hebrew for "tales, episodes." That expression came into Hebrew in a literal translation, "*šipurei savva*," and in the derivative, "go tell it to your grandmother!"

But "*Bobbe meiseh*" originally has nothing to do with anyone's grandma. Its creation is really a typical example of how living languages are enriched and enriched each other, sometimes by interlingual play on words or as a result of misunderstanding words.

Here is the *meiseh*: Early in the 14th century an anonymous English author wrote a poetic romance called *Sir Bevis of Hampton*. It was translated into French under the title *Beve de Hampton*, and then into the Italian *Buovo d'Antonia*.

Along came the German-born, Yiddish-speaking Jew Eliahu Levita (1458-1549), known as Elia Bokher.

He was a linguist/philologist/grammarian/lexicographer, who had turned down an invitation to be a professor at the University of Paris, compiled the first Yiddish dictionary, and was editor at the Italian Hebrew presses.

Levita translated *Buovo* from Italian into Yiddish, embellishing and Judaizing it. He published it in 1507 under the title *Bovo* (commonly pronounced *bawveh* in Yiddish, which of course is written in Hebrew characters) *d'Antona*.

Levita's version, which was popular especially among the women, became known as the *Bobbe Buch*, which in Hebrew-Yiddish orthography is only a dot away from *Bobbe Buch* (Grandma Book).

Towards the end of the 18th century, an anonymous prose edition, based on Levita's translation, appeared under the title *Bobbe Meiseh* (Grandma Tale).

(With thanks to *Milla Besel* Word for Word by Uri Sela, and the *Encyclopedia Judaica*. Incidentally, there is a Baron Munchausen type in the Talmud called *Rabba bar Bar Hanna*. But that's another *Bobbe Meiseh*.)

LIVIA WIEDERMANN of Tel

Aviv has written to attack me for my "irrational emotions," saying that my articles show me to be "soaked in hatred and anger" regarding the policies and conduct of our government.

I confess, Ms. Wiedermann, that I am indeed "soaked in hatred and anger" over:

- a government whose dominant party reneges on promises that lured numerous citizens to vote for it in the 1992 elections;
- a government that remains alive chiefly by practicing and encouraging political harlotry on all sides;
- a government of the Jewish state some of whose leading members repeatedly spout vitriol at large numbers of Jewish citizens whose politics or lifestyles displease them;
- Jewish parliamentarians and cabinet ministers in the Jewish state, including those occasionally responsible for what is commonly called culture and education, who are not ashamed to repeatedly display ignorance and hostility to the literary sources of Jewish civilization and historic Jewish values and practices;
- a prime minister/defense minister of the Jewish state who calls Jewish citizens "crybabies" because they expect him to see to their security, who tacitly says that it is all right for Arab terrorists to kill uniformed Israeli soldiers doing their duty, and who vilifies the state comptroller for exposing corruption in his ranks;
- a foreign minister of the Jewish state who accepts "peace" awards from enemies of Israel, and who tells an Israeli whose Hebrew accent differs from his to "go back where you came from," and doesn't think that racist remark calls for an apology.

I am truly sorry, Ms. Wiedermann, that it is my articles that cause you to "shiver," rather than the disgraceful, anti-democratic, anti-Zionist, anti-Jewish corrosive conduct of the people purportedly governing this Jewish state of ours 46 years after its rebirth.

REGARDING THE variety of excuses some of our elected spokesmen have been offering on behalf of Arabs making hostile statements or committing hostile acts against us, we might recall Rabin's own words a year ago, after two Israelis and two Arab produce dealers were murdered in the Gaza District:

"I call again on Israelis not to trust Palestinians any more, not even those with good intentions."

But where were the people? They should have put an immediate stop to Korah, with cries of "Treachery!"

They should have been ready to rip out the rebel's tongue for attacking the courageous liberator who orchestrated the destruction of Egypt, the holy prophet who communicated God's word to freed slaves.

Moses certainly deserved such support — but he didn't have it. The Bible documents for us, between the lines, the tragic flaw in the great leader: He didn't succeed in getting the people on his side.

But he lacked the ability to "sell" his ideas and ideals.

Even when God rallies to his side and causes the earth to swallow up Korah and his cohorts alive, the people accuse Moses the next day: "You have killed God's people." (Numbers, 17:6.)

The true test of a leader is his ability to inspire people to turn words into realities, passion into action, dream into substance.

THE CLASH of character types in this week's portion is not an isolated incident, but climaxes a deteriorating relationship between Moses and the Israelites.

If we turn to the portion of two weeks ago, *Beha'alochea*, we again find the people complaining, amazingly, for the sake of complaining: "And the people were as murmurers, speaking evil in the ears of the Lord." (11:1.)

But no sooner does God send a fire to destroy the murmurers than a terrible lust for meat attacks the "mixed multitude."

This despite the fact that manna is available every day, and the Israelites have plenty of sheep and

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Great prophet, lousy politician

SHABBAT SHALOM

SHILOMO RISKIN

"Now Korah, the son of Yizhar, the son of Levi, and Datan and Aviram, the sons of Eliva, and On, the son of Pelet, of the sons of Reuben, took men and rose up before Moses... 250 princes of the assembly... men of reknown... and they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron." (Numbers 16:1-3.)

WHEN Korah and his 250 co-conspirators waged their disastrous rebellion against the one who redeemed them from Egyptian slavery, one might have expected a spontaneous show of support for Moses.

But there wasn't a peep of protest from the crowd. We read how Moses "fell upon his face," forced to confront his antagonist alone.

His lone voice declared: "In the morning, the Lord will show who are his, and who is holy, and will cause him to come near unto Him; the man whom God chooses shall then be the holy one." (Numbers 16:5.)

But where were the people? They should have put an immediate stop to Korah, with cries of "Treachery!"

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But no sooner does God send a fire to destroy the murmurers than a terrible lust for meat attacks the "mixed multitude."

This despite the fact that manna is available every day, and the Israelites have plenty of sheep and

cattle with them!

God understands how serious the matter is and what is really bothering the people. His first response is not to provide quails, but rather, local leaders!

God commands: "Gather me 70 men whom you know to be respected and wise among the people, officers over them, and bring them into the tent of meeting... I will take of the spirit which is upon you and will put it upon them, and they shall bear the burden of the people with you, and you shall not bear it alone." (Deut. 11:16-17.)

Moses wasn't "getting" to the people. He hadn't instituted his father-in-law's system of judges, he hadn't devised a series of "fire-side chats" to reinforce the idealism of Sinai and remind the Israelites of their divine mission.

And so the results are what we see — a people cut off from the spiritual center of their nation.

The people were *kvetching* because they felt they had lost contact with their God. Moses hadn't succeeded in making them feel the immediacy of the Divine Presence and the critical importance of His message.

There's another public-relations blunder in last week's portion. Supposedly heeding the commandment of God, Moses sends out a reconnaissance mission to scout the land.

But, as every good CEO knows,

you aren't commission a report that can go either way, unless you're willing to live comfortably with either decision.

Moses was so certain of the truth of his position that he did not take the kind of precaution that all modern executives take.

Before they set up a committee (in effect, what the 12 scouts were), they make sure it is not going to sabotage long years of work, destroying a lifetime of effort in a single afternoon.

The challenge for Moses was to create the right environment for the delivery of the report.

Having failed to prepare the 12 scouts properly, the least he should have done was first hear their opinions behind closed doors.

If he couldn't convince the 10 to change their point of view, he himself should have been the one to address the nation.

How could Moses have allowed the scouts to get up and say whatever came into their heads — especially when the people's very freedom was at stake?

Moses knew what is right because his ear was tuned to the Almighty. But he made every possible mistake when it came to inspiring his people to follow him.

As a result, victory turned to defeat, and a sordid generation died in the desert.

A leader can only succeed if he takes his people with him. This is a lesson which must not be lost on the leaders of our own generation.

Shabbat Shalom

Warning: Questioning Yasser Arafat may be hazardous to your health

EYE ON THE MEDIA

DAVID BAR-ILLAN

YASSER Arafat's standard reply to questions about his ability to rule in the face of rejectionist opposition is as familiar as it is absurd.

We are a democratic society, he says, and in a democracy we allow differences of opinion. He often adds: The Likud and the settlers, like Hamas, oppose the Israeli-PLO agreement.

(In this, as in many other areas, Arafat is an adept imitator of the Soviets, who consistently described themselves as peace-loving democracies. Like them, he trusts the West's proclivity for wishful thinking to help make his insults to truth palatable.)

But last week, Jana Wendt, the interviewer of the Australian *60 Minutes* program (unrelated to the American CBS show of the same name), refused to let the chairman get away with it.

Having spent almost a week in Gaza before interviewing Arafat, she brushed off his ludicrous reference to Palestinian "democracy" and told him about a huge Hamas rally in Gaza she had witnessed. It was violently anti-agreement: Arafat was called a "traitor." The rally was joined by Palestinian "policemen" — Arafat's soldiers imported from Libyan camps.

"Do you really believe you can control them?" she asked.

The chairman, incensed by the story of his soldiers' betrayal and unaccustomed to anything less than groveling obsequiousness from journalists, particularly tele-

vision interviewers, jumped from his seat, furiously shouted something in Arabic and stalked out of the room.

His henchmen promptly declared the interview over, tore the films out of the still cameras, pulled the cassettes out of the video cameras and destroyed the tape, confiscated the audio tape, and bodily ushered out Wendt and her crew. It was as if they wanted to demonstrate what the chairman had meant by "democracy."

(The summary expulsion recalls the story of the Palestinian reporters who were unceremoniously kicked out by Arafat's henchmen when they tried to ask some unexpected questions following the signing ceremony on the White House lawn, as reported in "Eye on the Media," December 3, 1993. The Palestinian journalists denied the story then, but Australians have less to fear.)

The next day, someone in Arafat's entourage must have realized that the incident, coming on the heels of Arafat's Johannesburg call for a *jihad* to liberate Jerusalem, would do his peace-loving image little good.

They approached Wendt and told her she could resume the interview as long as she avoided "sensitive areas." Otherwise, they made clear, not only the film would be harmed.

"These are savage dogs, you know," said the Palestinian contact man under his breath. Democratic dogs, no doubt.

To Wendt's credit, she and her producer Garreth Harvey wrote up the whole story in Wednesday's *The Australian*, Australia's national daily. Needless to say, she does not expect another interview with Arafat soon.

Arafat is of course not the only example of Arab democracy in action, nor is he the worst offender in suppressing the news media. Saudi Arabia, a fundamentalist, medieval tyranny described as far back as 20 years ago by its UN representative Jamil Baroudy as "the world's only true democracy," is an even worse offender.

Realizing that the corrosive influences of the global village were getting dangerously close to the kingdom's gates, the Saudi royals have apparently decided that if they can't beat the media, they should buy them.

One of the major purchases has been the UPI news agency. (Though it is still far less virulent and openly anti-Israel than Reuters, for example.)

According to a story earlier this year by *Los Angeles Times* Cairo correspondent Kim Murphy, "Many of the region's most important media outlets — including the respected *Al Hayat* and *Al Shark el Ahsa* newspapers and influential Middle East Broadcasting Center satellite television station — are

now owned by powerful Saudis close to Saudi Arabia's royal family.... The trend is spreading the ultraconservative Gulf's influence throughout the important media centers of the Arab world."

In Saudi Arabia, few know about this. Last November 22, Saudi censorship prohibited the distribution of the Egyptian weekly *Roz el-Yousef* because it quoted an Israeli journalist who mentioned the Saudi drive to control all newspapers not sufficiently friendly to the monarchy.

Other taboos mix medieval and totalitarian quirks: According to a report in *Ha'aretz* (December 26, 1993), there can be no mention of the Saudi monarchy or any other royal reference — whether to the King of Spain, the Queen of England or the King of Hearts. (Yes, the one in the cards.)

Nor can any disparaging remark be made about Iran as a sponsor of terrorism, any subject related to Islamic law and the American presence in the Gulf. Needless to say, "shameful" pictures and cartoons are out.

Even Robert Fisk — one of the most outspoken apologists for radical Islam in the Western press — has had to admit (*The Independent*, April 13) that for many Arab journalists, "objectivity is a dangerous luxury."

As one Algerian woman journalist, speaking at a conference in Marseilles in March, put it: "Merely to be a journalist in my country can be fatal." Indeed, "10 of her colleagues have been murdered," as Fisk tells it, "several of them at the hands of Islamists, who cut their throats outside their own homes."

A Lebanese writer working for a Saudi-owned newspaper, reports Fisk, "admitted that no criticism of Saudi Arabia — or any ally of Saudi Arabia — could ever find its way into his editorial columns."

The June 6 *Newsweek* describes how the Saudis are trying to control entertainment as well as news. While they no longer ban TV, they do block programs they don't like. As *Newsweek* puts it, "With six channels of Arabic programming on [the Saudi-owned network] Orbit alone — not to mention the Saudi-owned MBC and ART networks — the Saudis have gained enormous influence over the Arabic entertainment industry."

"Film executives in Cairo, the Arab world's Hollywood, complain that wealthy Saudis are buying up Egypt's actors and directors and imposing Saudi mores on the industry at the same time."

"Producers of the mildly risqué melodramas that made Egyptian films famous now say they shy

away from permitting on-camera kisses, and they make sure there is an open door in sight if a man and woman are shown in a room together. 'There is a line in the Koran that says if the door's closed, the Devil comes in,' says one former producer, 'so we leave [such scenes] out.'"

The Saudis, *Newsweek* adds, are also building "a wireless cable system through which they will control the distribution of programming."

Some observers believe that what really caused the collapse of the Berlin Wall and the subsequent demise of the Soviet empire was Western television, which could be seen in East Germany. Perhaps the Saudis know what they are doing.

WHO KICKED THEM OUT? The following was received from Jerusalem reader Tom Weinberger:

"It really is too much for David Bar-Ilhan, yet again, to make the ridiculous and unsubstantiated claim that the 'ragtag force' of Begin and Shamir were responsible for the end of the British mandate. ('Eye on the Media,' Friday, May 20.) No mention of the Hagana, the Palmah or those hundreds of thousands of ordinary citizens of the Yishuv who, by their steadfastness and dedication, made the British realize they would have to leave Palestine."

"This is the kind of historical distortion and half-truth which

brings out Bar-Ilhan's vitriolic pen and lights that fire of self-righteousness in his eagle eye, when written by others about Israel."

"If only he were to look inward on occasion he might see just how hypocritical he really is."

Major advertising rivals aim for a 1980s revival

RIDING high on the crest of 1980s consumerism, empire-building advertising rivals Saatchi & Saatchi and the WPP Group stretched too far, careered headlong into recession, and came crashing down to earth.

Forced into financial straits, both struggled through years of tough restructuring. But now the pain is paying off.

WPP, the world's biggest advertising and marketing-services group, this month scooped a massive worldwide deal that proved its recovery is gathering pace, while Saatchi has managed a smaller-scale coup that could help it back onto solid ground.

Effective June 1, WPP's Ogilvy & Mather took over from more than 40 groups around the globe as the sole ad agency for computer giant International Business Machines Corp.

Ogilvy is touting it as the biggest deal in history, and industry sources say it could be worth \$400 million to \$500m. a year.

Meanwhile Saatchi, whose once-enviable new-business record was hammered recently, has landed the account for the new British lottery. Starting in November, it is tipped to be the biggest lottery in the world, as well as Britain's top "brand."

"Saatchi has had a run of bad luck," said Richard Sanderson of brokers Panmure Gordon. "This may well be the turning point...."

After struggling through the worldwide recession of the last few years, Saatchi & Saatchi and the WPP Group are trying to rebuild their shattered empires, Jude Webber writes

It's probably a very good account to have.

Share analysts were quick to point out that "one swallow doesn't necessarily make a summer" and were skeptical of reports that the lottery launch could be worth \$68m.

Retailers, Britain's biggest advertisers, currently pay around half that for their own promotion.

FOR WPP, the IBM deal is a sweet irony.

It was the acquisition of Ogilvy in 1989 that almost pitched the whole group over the precipice. The group also owns J. Walter Thompson, the oldest ad agency in the US.

Group shares crashed from a high of 649 pence in August 1989 to a low of 43 pence in December 1991, then yo-yoed further as WPP needed a debt restructuring in 1991, a debt-for-equity swap in

1992 and a \$126.5m. stock issue in 1993 to save it.

But with cool ex-Saatchi man Martin Sorrell at the helm, WPP's drastic action to cap costs and borrowings helped resurrect pretax profits, which soared 600 percent to \$82.29m. last year. Share analysts believe the group is now out of the woods.

SAATCHI, ON the other hand, admits it is still struggling.

A glamor group, formerly the biggest advertising agency in the world and famous for its electoral campaigns for Britain's ruling Conservative Party, Saatchi ran into trouble when it bought the Ted Bates agency in 1986.

Recession wreaked havoc with revenues and the loss last year of two big US accounts worth \$45.49m. sparked a shock profits warning.

Behind-the-scenes squabbling

between chief executive Charles Scott and chairman Maurice Saatchi, though publicly patched up, added to the group's woes, and Scott said in March that the future looked bleak until it could pull off new deals.

Despite the prestigious national lottery win, Saatchi desperately needs new business in the US, where 80% of its group revenue is generated.

Sanderson said the group was set for a fall in revenues this year if account losses are factored in. He expected pretax profits to climb to around \$45.49m. against \$29.11m. after charges last time.

Although the benefits to WPP of the IBM deal could be dented by the potential loss of two other computer firms, Compaq and Microsoft, it could still prove a profitable fillip, analysts said.

One analyst, who asked not to be named, said he had upgraded his 1994 profit forecast slightly, but declined to give details.

"You can't just ignore a \$394m. account win," he said.

David Forster at brokers Smith New Court saw scant impact in the current year but a profits boost in the order of \$6m.-\$7.5m. next year.

"This [the IBM win] confirms the trend that WPP's agencies are taking market share," he said. "That's one of the most encouraging parts of the group's business."

(Reuters)



Bryan Langton: I rely heavily on high technology, but I'm an old-fashioned hotelier.

Spreading the mega-hotel gospel

Holiday Inn's chairman says local hotels will have an increasingly difficult time competing with worldwide chains, Haim Shapiro reports

BYRAN Langton is convinced that international mega-chains are going to take over the hotel business.

As chairman of Holiday Inn - which franchises over 1,800 hotels, with some 340,000 rooms worldwide - he should know.

"We have been opening a new hotel every day for the past 18 months, and we intend to continue expansion at that rate," he said during a recent visit here for the official opening of the Jerusalem Holiday Inn Crown Plaza, formerly the Hilton.

He said the only serious competition for Holiday Inn worldwide comes from the French Accor chain, which has expressed an interest in Israel and which Langton describes as the most aggressive in the world.

Africa-Israel, which holds an exclusive franchise agreement with Holiday Inn for Israel, acquired the Jerusalem hotel last October and effected the changeover without losing a day of business.

Africa-Israel and Holiday Inn also own the Tel Aviv Holiday Inn Crown Plaza, the capital's former Diplomat Hotel, the Tiberias Holiday Inn, the former Ganei Hamat and the Eilat Holiday Inn, a new property.

Langton said Israel is one of the few countries in the world in which a single company has an exclusive concession.

Many international hotel chains have been eyeing Israel as a promising destination since the signing of the agreement with the PLO.

But Langton said Holiday Inn's interest and the deal with Africa-Israel actually came before that agreement.

Langton, who hails from Lancashire, came to Holiday Inn from Bass, the British brewery that took over the chain in 1990.

He said it will become increasingly difficult for the local independent hotel, or even the relatively small chain, to compete with the technology and marketing resources that the worldwide chains can enlist.

"It's OK for the domestic market and working well now, but the cost of technology will be too much for them," he said, noting that in most of the world a one-touch telephone call will secure instant reservation in a hotel which is part of the chain anywhere in the world.

"It's sad in a way, because I'm an old-fashioned hotelier," he said, referring to the increasing dependence on technology.

It is the same technology that enables each hotel to determine how many rooms are sold at what rate at any particular time.

He also said Holiday Inn has the largest marketing budget in the world - \$100 million a year. The smaller chains just can't match that.

Despite his insistence on the virtues of technology, he said his worst nightmare would be to have hotels run by machine. A hotel, according to Langton, should have a good location and be clean, comfortable and friendly.

He was full of praise for Africa-Israel and Shlomo Grofman, chairman of Africa-Israel Hotels and Resorts Ltd. Holiday Inn never even considered doing business with any other company here, he said.

During his trip, Langton visited every hotel in Eilat to keep in touch with the competition. He said the steadily increasing number of hotel rooms could result in a buyer's market there.

"If the number of rooms doubles and the supply doesn't, some of the hotels will suffer," he said.

He also expressed concern about the character of the Red Sea resort town: "I just hope you don't turn it into a concrete jungle."

And just as he said a resort can be over-built, he also insisted a hotel can become too luxurious.

As it happens, the chain's newest venture is Holiday Inn Express - popularly priced hotels without frills, intended primarily for the domestic market. The first such hotels are opening in India.

"You have to be careful about over-providing what the customer can't afford," he said. "Hotels often make the mistake of adding touches that cost money, but are not what the guest wants or is willing to pay for."

"Look at that light," he said, pointing to a simple fixture in the ceiling. "We could put a crystal chandelier in there and you might even like it, but you wouldn't be willing to pay extra for it. You have to treat the guests at the level they are prepared to pay for."

A diamond in the rough world of gold prospecting

Mark Creasy, a veteran gold prospector, has hit pay dirt in Australia, Alison Puchy reports

MARK Creasy is as tough as diamonds, as rare as platinum, has the energy of a coal deposit and is now the most financially successful prospector in the 143-year history of Australian gold-mining.

The British-born gold prospector became Australia's A\$170 million (NIS 380.8m.) man last month when a mining company bought his exploration interests on the Yandal gold belt, about 900 km. northeast of Perth.

"Some people shop till they drop. I prospect till I drop," Creasy said at his "corporate headquarters," a two-room apartment in Perth crammed with mining records.

"My ambition [to become a prospector] was crystallized when I was about 15," Creasy said. "I'd probably read far too many books by people like [US adventure writer] Jack London."

Creasy, who has spent 26 of his

49 years in Australia, has been described by Joseph Gutnick, chairman of Great Central Mines, as Australia's "prospector of the century."

Gutnick's company agreed on May 9 to pay out Creasy for his role in the discovery of a deposit estimated to hold more than 85 metric tons (three million ounces) of gold worth about NIS 3.67 billion.

It put down a deposit of A\$6m. (NIS 13.4m.) as initial payment and issued Creasy one million shares valued at about A\$10m. (NIS 22.4m.).

Great Central agreed to pay Creasy the balance of A\$160m. (NIS 358.4m.) in cash over 12 to 18 months to settle the purchase of his minority interests in the rich Bronzewing and Jundee gold resources projects and the Plover Bore prospect.

"I'm absolutely happy with the deal," Creasy said. "But I won't



Great Central Mines Chairman Joseph Gutnick: Creasy is Australia's prospector of the century.

believe I'm that rich until I get the full amount of money in my hands."

THE BESPECTACLED former mining engineer has never been troubled by harsh Australian conditions and doesn't care much for appearances. For 25 years he has driven around Western Australia in the same 1968 four-wheel-drive.

In the back of the vehicle he carries his trusty pick, shovel and pan, as well as more modern equipment like aeromagnetic maps and a satellite navigation system.

Creasy lives out of a canvas bedroll and sleeps under the stars, spending only a few months of the year back in Perth with his wife, Sharon, their eight-month-old son, Wilnot Yandal Creasy, and Sharon's two children by a previous marriage.

Creasy may have come from nowhere to rank among Australia's richest men, but he's no overnight success and says money has never been his only objective.

"I might be rich now but I was very, very poor for very, very long

periods of time," he said. "The fact of the matter is that prospecting on the whole is a get-poor-quick operation."

The son of a Suffolk farmer, Creasy moved to Australia as a 23-year-old, following in the footsteps of his parents and brother who had bought a farm 100 km. east of Perth.

He was no stranger to Australia, having worked in Queensland coal mines in 1964 while a student and been struck by what he saw as Australia's largely untapped mineral potential.

After working as a mining engineer in Broken Hill in outback Australia for 18 months he went prospecting, searching for opals in New South Wales and Queensland for about four years but finding only enough to "keep me on the edge of starvation."

He moved to Western Australia in 1972 and began an equally fruitless two-year quest for emeralds.

The young prospector's luck changed when he bought a metal detector in 1974 and headed into the scrub in search of gold. He found it in the form of a 1,300-gram nugget 450 km. northeast of Perth in 1975.

"I lodged it in the bank ... as security on A\$2,000 [NIS 4,480] credit and carried on my merry way," he said.

But Creasy was near the headline in the mid-1970s and again in 1983. His path to riches began when he started prospecting in the Yandal Belt in 1978 and struck pay dirt.

He had planned to bundle together his privately owned Yandal Belt projects and sell them during the 1987 boom, but the plan fell apart when markets crashed in October of that year.

In 1991 Great Central picked up an initial 70 percent of the Bronzewing project and 51 percent of the Jundee project for a total cost of A\$3.1m. (NIS 6.9m.) before agreeing last month to buy out Creasy's remaining minority interests.

Creasy says he has no intention of retiring on his fortune. "I've got eight other prospects and I'm planning to give a couple of them a terrible hiding any minute," he said.

(Reuters)

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Warning: Both sides vulnerable to jet lag

BRIDGE

MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

South dealer
Neither side vulnerable

North		East	
♠	A984	♠	Q1075
♥	9764	♥	J
♦	A4	♦	10862
♣	AK10	♣	Q865

South		North	
♠	KJ62	♠	24
♥	AKQ8	♥	5
♦	K97	♦	pass
♣	92	♣	pass

West		East	
♠	10532	♠	pass
♥	QJ53	♥	pass
♦	J743	♦	pass
♣	pass	♣	pass

Opening lead: ♠3

WHEN theorists come up with new bidding ideas, they rarely get a chance to promote them unless they can put their money where their mouth is.

This was the case last December when Leandro Burgay of Biella, Italy, challenged a strong American team to a match to decide whether his bidding system was superior to other systems.

Burgay had invented a new set of responses to one notrump and was trying to sell it to the bridge-playing public. He bet \$100,000 against any team that would match him, and the result was that his team of four European players (Burgay, Soldano De Falco of Padua, Italy; and Alain Levy and Herve Mouiel, both of Paris) lost to the All-American squad of Paul Soloway, Bobby Goldman, Jeff Meckstroth and Eric Rodwell.

The one stipulation in the 96-board match, played in New York, was that one notrump be the opening bid on every deal.

This was arranged by computer-dealt hands. The programmer, John Lowenthal, instructed the computer to deal "random" hands with the requirement that the opening bidder always hold a 16-18 point balanced hand.

International matches are always fun for kibitzers, but they're sometimes hard on the players. Or, to be more precise, hard on the players who have just flown in from another time zone.

I remember two occasions when American teams flew to England for challenge matches for a BBC television series. Unfortunately for the Americans, time and money made it expedient to force the action on the morning after their arrival. On both occasions the tired Americans made numerous atypical errors during the first session of play.

A similar problem may have occurred in the Notrump Challenge Match. The final score of the match was 193 imps to

135 in favor of the Americans, but the score did not necessarily reflect better bidding by the Americans. On today's deal, for example, it was a careless defensive play that lost 13 imps when a tired East player failed to think carefully at trick one.

At both tables the final contract was six hearts, though it could very well have been six spades because North-South have four-four fits in both majors. There is a small controversy among experts as to which major to show first if partner responds Stayman to a one-notrump opening. Some say bid spades first, others hearts. A third, rational approach, is to bid your stronger major first—the one you would prefer as the trump suit.

The bidding in the diagram follows this reasoning. South rebids two hearts, showing four of them. If North retreats to three notrump, South knows that North has spades and can easily correct to four spades.

In this case, however, North jumps to five hearts, a slam try. Traditionally, a jump to five in a major asks for one of two things. First, if the opponents have bid a suit, it asks opener to bid a slam if he has second-round control of that suit. Second (in this case), the jump is a slam try asking for good trumps. South is happy to accept with three top honors, and the final contract of six hearts is a good one.

West led his singleton spade at both tables and both declarers played the four of spades from dummy. At one table, East (for the Burgay team) put up the queen, losing to the king. Declarer drew three rounds of trumps, led a spade to the ace and, with the nine-eight of spades opposite the jack-six, was able to finesse East's 10 of spades. West could ruff in whenever he wanted, for the defense's only trick.

When Rodwell was East for the American team, he showed how to score a spade trick. He put in the seven of spades at trick one. This forced the jack, and later, when declarer led a spade to the ace, he was left with the queen-10. East had to come to a spade trick and the defense scored a trump trick as well to defeat the slam.

The Parisian East, who put up the queen of spades at trick one, may have been worried that his partner was leading from the king third. This is certainly possible, but it is not likely. If West held the king, it would be his only high honor card, and leading away from it at trick one against a slam, into a strong hand, would not be a smart move.

Some of the blame must be placed on jet lag. Therefore, I humbly suggest to Mr. Burgay that if he ever wants to sponsor another match for \$100,000, his team should be provided with more than just a new bidding system.

The team should have a new travel agent as well.



The hollyhock, a hardy perennial, blooms in May and June. (Leora Cheslin)

Gardens in the pink

NATURE

D'VORA BEN SHAUL

MANY of our garden flowers were developed from wildflowers. The wild relative is often as striking as the domestic plant, though the range of colors is usually more limited.

Take hollyhocks. Two kinds grow locally, both in varying shades of pink.

The bristly hollyhock closely resembles the hollyhocks everyone knows. Called *Alcea setosa* in Latin and *hamulifera* in Hebrew, like all hollyhocks it is a member of the mallow family. With tall, graceful stems and bright green leaves contrasting with its many flowers, it makes a pleasant sight along the roadways.

The leaves and stems are covered with fine bristles (hence the name), making the plant unattractive to grazing cattle. It isn't uncommon to see large clumps of these hollyhocks standing in an otherwise closely grazed field.

The plant produces a vast number of seeds that scatter easily. Even though birds, especially finches, find the seeds a treat, plenty are left for sprouting during the winter rains.

But not all newly appearing plants are from new seeds. The hollyhock is a hardy perennial, and although the stems and leaves disappear in summer, the plant comes up anew from its large fleshy roots.

It grows to full height before the end of winter, then blooms throughout May and June. Flowers range from dark to light pink, with an occasional pinkish white. This is in areas where the plant is truly wild.

In areas near some settlements, cross-pollination with domesticated hollyhocks that come in a large array of mauves, purples and even reds has produced interesting feral plants in a variety of shades.

The second hollyhock is the stemless hollyhock, *Alcea acaulis* (*hamulifera* in Hebrew). Unlike the tall bristly hollyhock, this plant has large leaves that lie flat on the ground. The flower stems are very short.

The stemless hollyhock blooms a little earlier than the tall variety, and has usually disappeared by the end of May. Its flowers are a deeper purplish pink.

Hollyhocks grow in most of the country's Mediterranean areas, but seem more plentiful in hilly areas. The Galilee is particularly blessed with this plant—in some areas, fields can appear pink with them. Many grow around Jerusalem.

Someone once scattered hollyhock seeds in Sha'ar Hagai, around the old vehicle carcasses which serve as a memorial of the War of Independence. They come up year after year, and are always in full bloom for Independence Day.

Blitz wipes out boredom

CHESS

NIGEL DAVIES

THIS year's Israeli Blitz Chess Championship (five minutes per player per game) took place on May 29 at the Lasker Club on Hayarkon.

Sponsored mainly by Nahum Kalka, a builder, and organized by Yohanan Afek, it turned out to be the strongest ever Israeli tournament, boasting 14 grandmasters out of the 24 participants.

Final standings were 1st. Ilya Smirin, 18½/23; 2nd. Lev Psakhis, 18; 3rd. Ronen Har-Zvi, 17; 4th. Alexander Huzman, 16½; 5th. Leonid Yudashin, 16; 6th. Boris Alterman, 15½; 9th. Yona Koshashvili, 15; 10th. Valery Beim, 14; 11th. Vadim Milov, 13½; 12th. Eliahu Shvidler, 13; 13th. Eran Liss, 12½; 14th. Leonid Gofstein, 11; and 15th. Ilan Manor, 10½.

In his book *Chess in the Eighties*, David Bronstein argues that in standard tournaments too much time is spent on games: "Isn't it cruel that you should lose a game because of a single mistake after 4½ hours of intensive effort?" This pressure, he says, and that of assigning each player a number representing his chess value, has created a result-oriented player who concentrates on fitness, learning theory and avoiding risk.

Nowadays, I find it increasingly difficult to argue with Bronstein's point of view. I remember my carefree youth when I played chess for enjoyment, and think with displeasure about the modern chess world. Never was this point brought home to me more forcibly than during the recent ASA Grandmaster tournament.

In the second round, I played Black against Mark Berkovic and the game went: 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Bxc6 bxc6 5.Nc3 f6 6.d4 exd4 7.Nxd4 c5 8.Nde2 Qxd1+ 9.Nxd1 Bd7 10.Bd4 0-0-0 11.Ne3 Bc6 12.f3 Ne7 13.Rd1 Rxd1+ 14.Rxd1 Ng6 15.Bg3 Be7 16.Kc1 Rd8 17.Nc3 Ne5 18.Ncd5 Bf8 19.Rd1 ½-½.

The reader will agree that this was extremely dull, and this "game" took us several hours to play.

Afterwards I asked my opponent about his boring choice of opening. He explained that it was because he had lost our previous two encounters and didn't want to lose a third.

If chess is some kind of sport then this decision is understandable: by creating a position which is difficult to lose, even against a higher rated player, White achieves a sporting result which is above expectation. But of what intrinsic value is chess played in such a way?

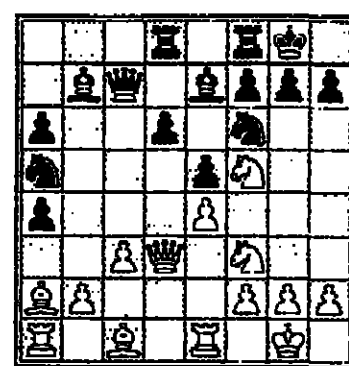
Some time later I played a series of five-minute games against Gad Rechlis, just for fun, and the creativity and interest of these games far exceeded the Berkovic game, or anything else that was taking place in the official tournament. I ask his forgiveness in advance for publishing one of these games and would like to express my appreciation for his coauthorship.

Davies, N. — Rechlis, G

Spanish Opening

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 0-0 8.a4 Bb7 9.d3 d6 10.c3 Na5 11.Ba2 c5 12.Nbd2

Qc7 13.Nf1 Rd8 14.Ne3 c4 15.Nf5 cxd3 16.Qxd3 bxa4



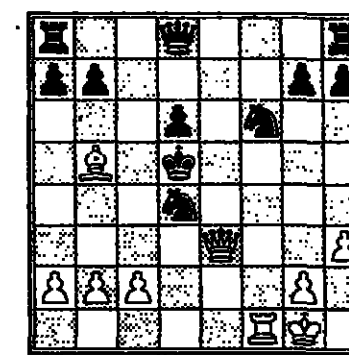
17.Bh6! gxf6 18.Nxe5! Threatening 19.Qg3+ followed by mate on g7.

18...Nxe4 19.Nd7 Nb3 20.Bxb3 axb3 21.N5xb6+ Kg7 22.Rxe4 Bxe4 23.Qxe4 Rxf7 24.Nxf7 Kxf7 25.Qxh7+ Ke8 26.Qg8+ Kd7 27.Qe4+ Ke6 28.Qe4+ Ke5 29.Qd4+ Ke6 30.Qa4+ Ke5 31.Qxa6 Qb6 32.Ra5+ Ke6 33.Qc4+ Kd7 34.Qa4+ Ke8 35.Rb5 Qe7 36.Qa6+ Kd7 37.Rb7 ...and White won.

SO IS five-minute chess the way forward? Frankly, I doubt it, as in the Lasker club only the idiots tried to play chess; most players concentrated on simply pressing the clock as quickly as possible.

In my game against the president of the Israeli Chess Federation, Israel Gelfer, I totally outplayed my opponent and had a rook and three pawns against my opponent's rook. The spectators assumed I had won when they saw that the game was over. But in fact my flag had fallen, and rising triumphantly from the board, Gelfer announced: "He lost!" Somehow this incident was deeply symbolic of my life here in Israel.

This week's problem is the finish to a game between David Bronstein (White) against Boris Spassky played in 1961 during one of the intervals at a session of the USSR Chess Federation. The whole game lasted no more than 1 minute and the finish was a delight. White to play and win (see diagram).



IN LAST week's problem (Gofstein-Mikhalevsky), White won with 1.Bxg6! hxg6 2.Qh6 after which the threat of 3.Qxg6+ followed by 4.Re3-h3 will force a decisive gain of material (2...d4 3.Qxg6+ Kh8 4.Rad1 decisively threatens 5.Rd3).

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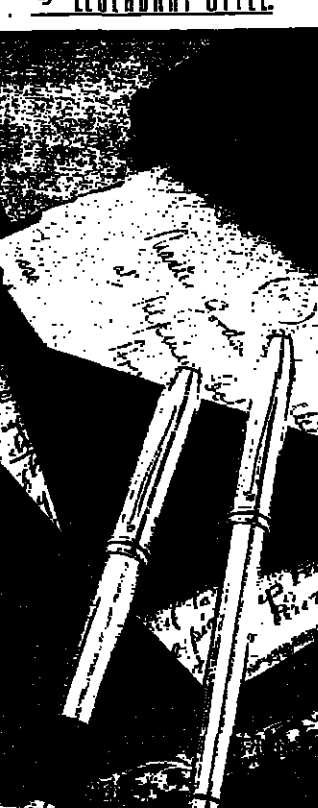
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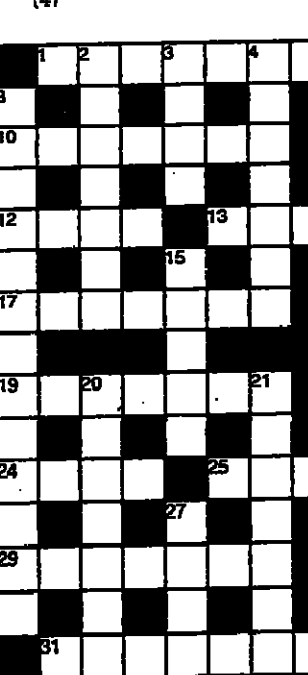
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- Assign the ablest recruit for the warship (6,7)
- A sailor scowls about Herculean tasks (7)
- Song that once charmed Ulysses (7)
- Lively betting at the track (4)
- Vessel in dock (5)
- One rejected a knight's title? It's a bloomer! (4)
- Meet the requirements and make a reservation (7)
- Dope and sex orgy get uncovered (7)
- Girl able to recall a whole lot of dates (7)
- Point to a barrel-shaped singer (7)
- Ballet-skit for the Bishop! (4)

DOWN

- Food split by blabbermouths! (5)
- Issue a period return (4)
- Monarch embraces saint and thief (7)
- A burning issue may arise from it (7)
- It was frightful, as a rule (5,6)
- You may make a pound on the exchange rate in Canada (7)
- Everything at Longchamp for the tipster (4)
- Yes, cats may produce this feeling in some people (7)
- Admit that you take in stolen goods? (7)



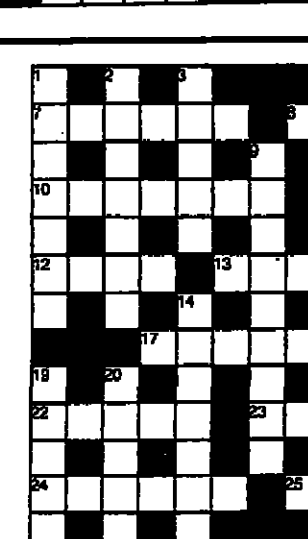
SOLUTIONS

- Vain and averse to work (4)
- They get taken in by foreigners (7)
- Uncomfortable proximity in stifling billets (5,8)
- Reward of mature reflection (13)
- Furnaces where links are forged (5)
- Aside given to an actor to please? (5)
- Miss tea when involved in painting (7)
- One is going to say it (7)
- Drink container—one included in new changes on tax (4-3)
- A gambol no one treated leads to complaint (7)
- Live ammunition? (4)
- A slight mark on the music (4)

QUICK CROSSWORD

Yesterday's Quick Solution
ACROSS: 1 Knocked, 5 Barns, 8 Outbre, 9 Tasting, 10 Nomadic, 11 Elect, 12 Sandal, 14 Unkind, 17 Aroma, 19 Amnesia, 23 Tiniest, 23 Inept, 24 Error, 25 Erector.

DOWN: 1 Known, 2 Ottoman, 3 Knosed, 4 Detach, 5 Eastern, 6 Raise, 7 Sighted, 12 Startle, 13 Amateur, 15 Inspect, 16 Bezie, 18 Owner, 20 Noise, 21 After.

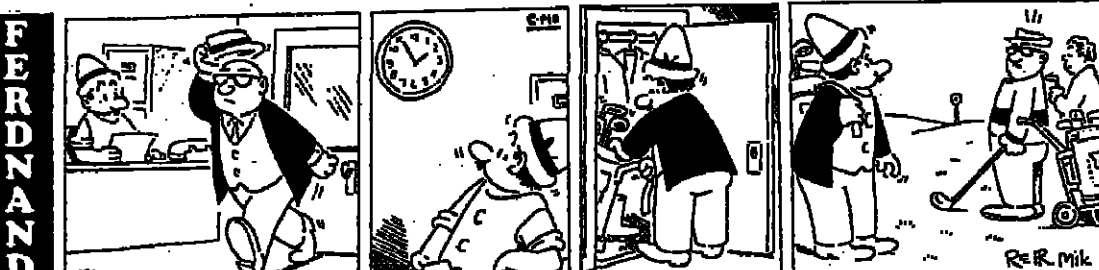


ACROSS

- Edible fat (6)
- Whisky (6)
- Cradlesong (7)
- Dismantle (5)
- Begin (6)
- Slender (4)
- Perfume (5)
- Disgrace (4)
- Learned (7)
- Plea (6)
- Courteous (6)

DOWN

- Skil (7)
- Rich cheese (7)
- Royal (5)
- Get (7)
- Tempest (5)
- Upper leg (5)
- Onlooker (9)
- Rapture (7)
- Unlawful (7)
- Hampered (7)
- Vacillate (5)
- Loose (5)
- Teacher (5)



A naval hero's close calls, close friends

Abraham Rabinovich recalls the exploits, vision and kindness of Yohai Bin-Nun: sailor, admiral, kibbutznik

It was in the waters off Gaza that Yohai Bin-Nun, who died this week at age 69, became an IDF legend.

Bin-Nun, who would in time become an admiral and commander of the Navy, led a small naval unit in the War of Independence which had been equipped with one-man assault craft from Italian war surplus. The craft were in effect manned torpedoes containing more than 270 kilos of explosives.

Training was almost completed in October 1948 on Lake Kinneret under the guidance of an Italian ex-naval commando when Bin-Nun was ordered to truck the unit immediately to Jaffa. The flagship of the Egyptian fleet, the King Farouk, had been sighted off Gaza with an accompanying minesweeper. Bin-Nun was given 24 hours to mount an attack.

The equipment was loaded aboard an old freighter which put out to sea toward evening. Bin-Nun was awakened from a nap by a radioman with a message. It read: "Attack with all you've got." The signatory was prime minister David Ben-Gurion.

They were about 10 miles west of Gaza when four of the attack craft were lowered into the water. Bin-Nun had timed the attack so that the moon would be rising behind the enemy vessels. Two of the boat bombs were to make the initial attack runs, the operators ejecting before impact. Bin-Nun himself would wait to attack whichever of the Egyptian vessels

needed a follow-up punch. The fourth craft would retrieve the men from the water.

The sea was calm as they approached. The Israeli boats were 400 meters from their targets when the anchors of the Egyptian ships suddenly rattled. The small craft had been spotted and the Egyptian vessels were getting underway, opening fire as they did.

The attack boats opened full throttle but Bin-Nun saw that the one assigned to the minesweeper was mistakenly heading for the King Farouk together with the other attack craft.

Foam was beginning to show under the bow of the minesweeper as it picked up speed. Bin-Nun opened his throttle and headed toward it. The minesweeper turned toward him, offering its narrowest profile, and two searchlights caught and held him.

A powerful explosion nearby told him that the King Farouk had been hit, but Bin-Nun was too preoccupied to look. All the guns on the minesweeper were now manned. The water around his craft leaped as machineguns and anti-aircraft guns opened up on him.

Blinded by the lights, Bin-Nun headed straight between them. He released the safety device on the explosive charge and fixed the rudder with a special screw so it would stay on course.

At 100 meters from his target, he pulled the lever that was to eject a wooden float to which he



Yohai Bin-Nun (center) commanded the Navy at a time when it was undergoing major change.

was stoutly lashed. Nothing happened. Bin-Nun pulled harder and the handle came off in his hand. The rope around his waist was knotted too tightly for him to free himself before impact.

As the minesweeper loomed ahead, he leaped into the water. His speeding craft, to which he

was still attached, dragged him for a few seconds. Then the rope snapped, cutting a gash in his side but leaving him floating free. Although he was only 40 meters from the ship when the explosion came, he was not injured.

The attack-boat operators wore caps with infrared lights which

were visible to a lookout with special binoculars in the retrieval boat. Bin-Nun's cap had been ripped off as he was towed through the water but he was able to signal with a waterproof flashlight. The boat came alongside him and he was hauled in. The two other boat operators were like-

wise retrieved from waters teeming with Egyptian sailors.

DURING an interview several years ago at his home in kibbutz Ma'agan Michael, Bin-Nun recounted how he had explained the attack plan to his men on the deck of the freighter just before they were lowered into the water, using carrots to represent the vessels.

For many years, full details of the operation were not publicized, apparently to maintain surprise should such craft be needed again.

Bin-Nun was one of 12 people awarded the Hero of Israel medal during the war, and his exploit became the stuff of legend within the armed services.

It was not the first time Bin-Nun had looked death in the eye. Only six months before, he had been part of a Palmah unit mauled in an ambush at Nebi Samwil north of Jerusalem. Wounded in the head and body, he lay on the terraced slope reconciled to death as he listened to the voices of approaching Arab soldiers. At the last moment, rescuers arrived to snatch him to safety.

His family had been informed of his death, however, and the handsome young officer's numerous girlfriends were among those who came to pay their premature condolences.

Bin-Nun had been living with hazard since 1944 when, at age 20, he founded an underwater sappers unit for the Palyam, the naval arm of the Palmah.

His subsequent naval career did not rest on his spectacular action off Gaza. He founded the naval commando unit, Flotilla 13, which has remained to this day one of the country's elite fighting units, and he commanded several warships.

In 1960, he was appointed commander of the Navy, a post he filled until 1966. One of his first acts in that position was to summon senior officers to a symposium lasting several days on the future nature of the fleet. It was not an academic question. The navy was a collection of World War II castoffs, and its meager budget reflected its marginal defense role.

From this meeting would emerge, with Bin-Nun's blessing, the daring notion of mounting missiles on inexpensive small boats. Missiles did not recoil as naval guns did and could therefore be fired from small craft, while their warheads would be as devas-

tating as a heavy cruiser's shells. It was a theory no other navy had yet attempted to put into practice. The Israeli Navy became the first in the West to develop missile boats, and in the Yom Kippur War they swept the eastern Mediterranean clean of Arab vessels.

Rear Adm. (res.) Bin-Nun emerged from retirement in the Six Day War to plan a commando raid against an enemy harbor that he was to lead personally, but the action was aborted. In the Yom Kippur War, he attached himself to the naval unit that captured the Egyptian naval base at Ardaka in the Gulf of Suez.

In 1968, he founded the Oceans and Lakes Research Institute in Haifa. At Ma'agan Michael, which he joined in 1970, he managed a chemical plating plant and took his turn working in the kitchen and at other communal tasks. Since retirement, he looked after the kibbutz's medical services. He was accompanying a kibbutz member who was having surgery in the US when he suffered his fatal heart attack.

ALTHOUGH a Jerusalemite by birth, Bin-Nun was drawn to the sea and would, until recent years, swim miles each day.

Prof. Yehoshua Arieli, a Hebrew University historian, was a close friend of Bin-Nun's since they studied together in the US in the early 1950s. He said that Bin-Nun's body was scarred not only with war wounds but with those incurred during training accidents as a commando leader. "There was in him a drive to tempt fate and prove himself through danger."

In striking contrast to that side of him, Bin-Nun's warm personality, to which this writer can attest, and genuine interest in people, gained him a very large assortment of friends in all walks of life. He and his wife, Sara, periodically "adopted" troubled youngsters, and his generous response to people who turned to him for help had itself become a legend.

"He was completely helpless against his heart," Arieli said this week.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by three daughters - Noah, a photographer; Efrat, an opera singer; and Hamutal, a nurse - and four grandchildren. In the cemetery of Ma'agan Michael, near the sea he loved, Yohai Bin-Nun will be buried today with full military honors.

The 'Iron Daughter' shows stiff upper lip in Galilee

GRAPEVINE

GREER FAY CASHMAN

IT MUST be in the genes. The iron will that earned former British prime minister Margaret Thatcher the sobriquet "Iron Lady," is also a trait of her daughter Carole, who, unfazed by Katyusha rockets, insisted last week on touring the Galilee.

THOUGH RUNNING behind Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin and Knesset education committee chairman Avraham Burg, Labor MK Rafi Edri is on the short list of candidates for a cabinet post when Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin next divests himself of one of his portfolios. While waiting to be recognized in his country of choice, Edri has been

recognized in the country of his birth. King Hassan of Morocco last week conferred a medal of honor on Edri for promoting closer ties between Morocco and Israel. Edri, who has returned there on official missions, is believed to be the first Israeli and the first Jew to be so honored by the king. His connections to people of influence in his native land have sparked speculation that he may be this country's first ambassador to Morocco. That would be as good a consolation prize as any if he doesn't make minister.

IF HE were 25 years younger, he would love to have another chance to take over the administration of Kupat Holim Clalit. That's what Asher Yadin, the health fund's former director, told Channel Two's Gabi Gazit. Convicted on bribery charges in 1976, Yadin,

who spent over a decade abroad following his release from prison, retained his KHC membership, and finally came home when he needed to be hospitalized. If he were given free rein, he said, he would sell off the health fund's hospitals and use the proceeds to provide better services and cover the deficit.

UNTIL seven years ago, the steaks and burgers in his Jerusalem restaurant were legend. Diners stood in line to get a seat. But then Norman Stepkov chucked in the food business to revert to graphic arts, one of his other talents. He also took his wife, Israel Radio broadcaster Idele Ross, and their two daughters to spend a year in his native Canada. They returned two years ago, and two months ago opened a new eatery. On the edge of downtown, the restaurant, which specializes in steaks and burgers, has an extensive noontime menu in deference to Ross who is a vegetarian.

SHOULD SHE want to, Sarah Burns, wife of British Ambassador Andrew Burns, could settle here under the Law of Return. Her maternal grandmother was Jewish, she disclosed at a garden party at her home, organized by the WIZO English Speaking Liaison chairwoman Anne Silverman. The ambassador commented on the improved relations between Israel and Britain since the peace process got underway. Some 90 guests nibbled crustless cucumber and egg sandwiches and sipped perfectly brewed tea from crested British china. Several came from

countries other than England and were more than happy to pay the NIS 25 entrance fee to see the inside of an ambassador's residence (the proceeds will be used for WIZO projects).

SINGING in the rain was not quite what the Tel Aviv Municipality's Alei Gefen choir had in mind for its UK debut at the Covent Garden Festival of Opera and Musical Arts. Anatole Moskalov, who sang the title role, was enthusiastically applauded by the enthralled audience. The choir, conducted by Eli Gefen, also performed at Westminster Abbey and at a private concert at the home of Ambassador Moshe Ravid.

"THAT'S ME," exclaimed socialite Judith Bejerano as she spied a five-year-old in a 1948 group photograph displayed at the Loka Beer retrospective at the Israel Museum. Others in the picture included Golda Meir, wearing a suit which Beer had made for her, and the little girl's father, Moshe Bejerano, who served as commercial attaché at the embassy in Moscow during Golda's tenure as Israel's first ambassador to the Soviet Union.

ARRIVING in Israel some days in advance of Satmar rebbe Moshe Teitelbaum, the anti-Zionist group's spokesman in New York, Herschel Friedman, who also edits the Yiddish-language anti-Zionist Der Yid, appeared Monday night on Channel 1's Popolika. "It was a spontaneous decision," he said of his debut on Zionist television.



Labor MK Rafi Edri may be the first Jew honored by the king of Morocco. (Yitzhak Elhanan)

Curiously, he also chose to speak the Zionist brand of Hebrew, and called himself Zvi rather than the Yiddish version of his name.

ALTHOUGH HE wasn't the author, Teddy Kollek was obligingly autographing copies of *Ancient Jerusalem Revealed* at a celebration in his honor at the Jerusalem Botanical Gardens. Published by the Israel Exploration Society with the assistance of a grant from the Kaplan-Kushlik Foundation, the book, covering 25 years of excavations in Jerusalem, was dedicated to Kollek. When Kollek visited South Africa 18 years ago, he influenced Mendel Kaplan, now chairman of the Jewish Agency board of governors, to help raise funds for excavating the City of David. Kaplan has since developed a keen interest in archeology, as have other members of his family. Kollek who was busy this week drumming up support for other projects at the International Council meeting of the Israel Museum, will be feted in London at the end of the month when the British Friends of the Jerusalem Foundation hold a gala dinner to inaugurate the Teddy Kollek Endowment Fund. He is also about to launch his own weekly program

on cable television. As things are, he wouldn't have time to be mayor anyway.

NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY. Running late for meetings in the capital, Police and Energy Minister Moshe Shaleh, traveling along the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem highway, allowed his driver to not only exceed the speed limit, but also to place a flashing blue light on the roof of the car. Such measures are permissible only in emergency situations, but apparently a minister can create his own emergencies.

IT WAS a 70th birthday celebration of not one but 15 women! Former classmates at the Carlebach Jewish School in Leipzig, they got together this week at the Jerusalem Renaissance Hotel at the initiative of Ilse Haas of Tor-



Sarah Burns, the British envoy's wife: The Law of Return applies to her. (Israel Sun)

US, England and Germany to share memories of their devoted teacher Gertrude Herrmann, who perished in the Holocaust because she refused to leave Germany so long as there was a still single Jewish child whom she could help.

WHEN SHE's not castigating some government ministry for unwarranted improprieties, State Comptroller and former Supreme Court judge Miriam Ben-Porat occasionally drops her stern facade. A few months back, she read some of her favorite romantic poems on radio, and this week she was seen dancing on the tarmac at Ben-Gurion Airport together with other dignitaries and members of Habad who welcomed the latest group of Chernobyl children to come for medical treatment.

SOME GREMLINS invaded the Jerusalem Post computer last week, causing Eilat Mayor Gabi Kadosh to assume a new identity - that of general manager of the Eilat Hilton. Kadosh does have a background in tourism, and perhaps it's a job he would consider once he is out of office. But he still has a while to go, aside from which, there is no Eilat Hilton as yet.

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